

Times .10

Your Magazine of Choice

April 2000, Vol. 7 Number 7

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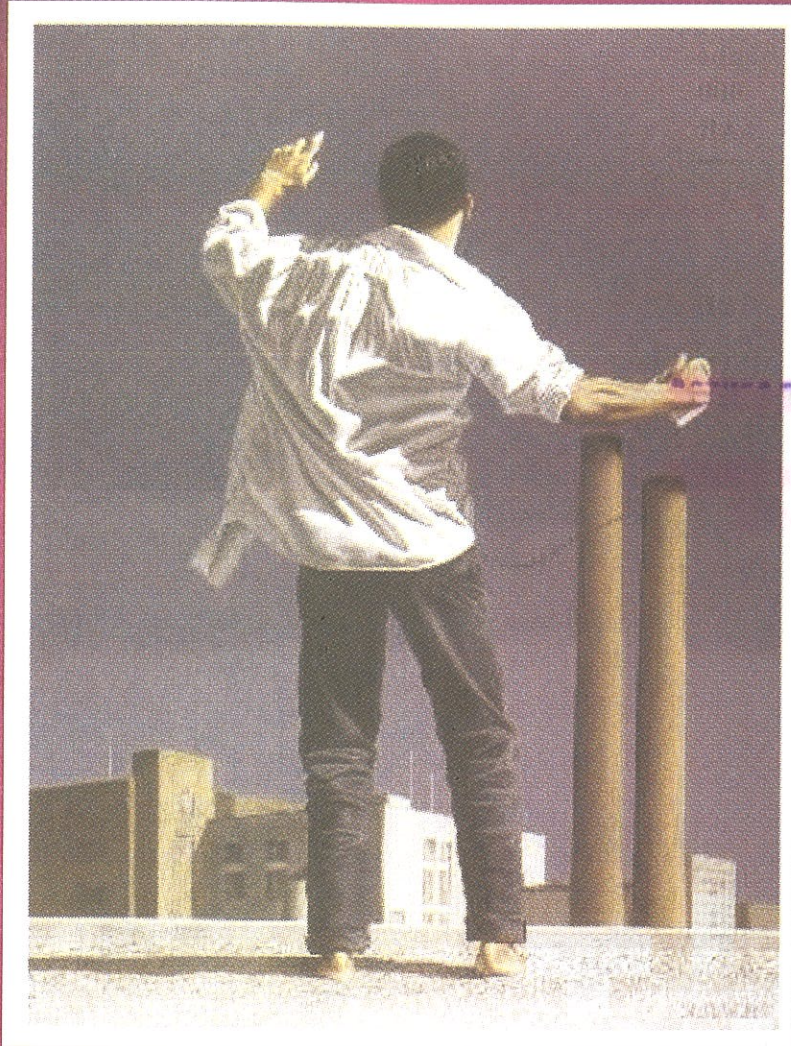
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This is the work of Steve Walker

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Times .10

Your Magazine of Choice

Vol. 7 Number 7

April 2000

Edmonton, Alberta

RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTRE
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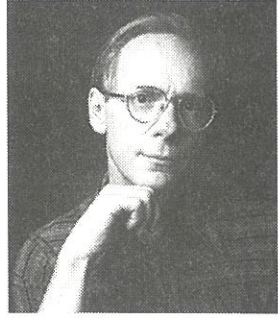
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From the Editor

by Dennis Cambly



**Dreams come true,
without that
possibility,
nature would not
incite us to have
them...**

John Updike

This issue contains some rather controversial material for those in the AIDS industry. There are a growing number of researchers, scientists and others in the medical professions that are making louder noises about the connection between HIV and AIDS. Some are claiming outright that the two are not connected at all. This group has grown to over 600 people in their various professions worldwide. Their arguments are rather convincing once you have read a few dozen of them. When Dr. Gallo made his televised announcement in the mid-eighties he said: "I believe we have found the virus that may be the probable cause of AIDS". The media, at that time in a frenzy, left out the word "probable" and changed the entire sentence to read: "we have found the virus that causes AIDS". A giant industry worth billions of dollars was created in one instant. Having watched so many friends and acquaintances die of AIDS, I wonder why after 20 years there is still no cure. Could it be possible that billions of

dollars are being tossed in the wrong lake? When Nobel Prize winners such as Dr. Mullis threw his name into the group, others began to follow. We printed a story about Dr. Mullis back several issues ago. It is no secret that the large drug companies have turned out billions of dollars each month by constantly releasing "test" drugs onto the market at very high costs. We point out in the story where you can get more information. Our thanks go to the New York Press for the permission to reprint the story.

On the other side of things, we have an article from HIVE Edmonton regarding "oral sex" and some new reports on this form of sexual activity. There are thousands of reports, but this one makes more serious claims. However, the Centre for Disease Control, out of the United States, does not consider oral sex as a high-risk transmission form of sex. It is still worth a good read, as the author points out how this could be a higher risk level if specific steps are not taken.

During the month of April, our own Beverly will be holding his first of two fundraisers for the Kairos House. It will be held on Saturday, April 15 at Boots 'n Saddle. Bev knows how to put together a fun time and empty everyone's pockets of money and then some. Some people call Bev a cow, but we wouldn't do that, would we, just because we love him too much.

Look forward to a lot of news in the next issue about Pride Week. Things are now coming together and things are shaping up for a terrific week of fun and frolic. Until then, get and have some fun with the many groups and organizations the Capital City has to offer.

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FYI: News & Notes from the HIV/AIDS Battlefront

"Health Officials Declare Syphilis Outbreak"

MSNBC Online

A syphilis outbreak has been declared in Los Angeles County after 18 cases of the disease were reported in the last two weeks. According to health officials, all of the cases involved homosexual men. Syphilis can be treated with antibiotics, but testing of all sexual partners is necessary to stop its spread. Syphilis can be transmitted during oral, vaginal, or anal sex and starts with a single painless lesion. Without treatment, the disease can go unnoticed for years and then cause serious organ damage and even death. Local health officials are urging men to use condoms and also to limit their number of sexual partners. Free testing for syphilis and other sexually transmitted diseases, is being offered by the county public health department for the next several weeks.

"An Improbable Theory on AIDS Is Put to the Test"

New York Times

Three laboratories in the United States and Europe will start testing soon samples of an experimental polio vaccine tested in the Belgian Congo in the 1950s to determine if it was accidentally made with chimpanzee tissues that could have contained the ancestor of HIV. The Wistar Institute in Philadelphia made the experimental vaccine and has kept drops of it frozen since 1957. The tests follow the publication of a theory in Edward Hooper's book, "The River," that an oral polio vaccine in the Congo started the spread of HIV to humans; however, scientists do not expect conclusive evidence proving or disproving the theory. In part, this is because no one knows whether the samples being

tested are the same as the vaccine that was actually administered in the Congo. The scientists will test coded samples, the actual identities of which will only be known to the independent lab and an independent committee of scientists appointed by Wistar. The code will only be revealed after the study is complete.

"High Prevalence of Affective Disorders Seen in HIV-Infected Adolescents"

Reuters Health Services

New research from the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., shows a high prevalence of psychiatric disorders in a group of urban HIV-infected adolescents. The study, which involved interviews with 34 HIV-infected young people ranging in ages from 16 to 21, found that over half had a previous psychiatric diagnosis and that half had a documented history of sexual abuse. The study revealed that the teens had a high prevalence of major psychiatric disorders, including depression, substance abuse, and conduct disorder. The authors suggest that psychiatric disorders could put adolescents at greater risk for high risk sexual behavior and substance abuse.

"South Africa in a Furor Over Advice About AIDS"

New York Times

South African President Thabo Mbeki recently consulted with two American scientists who do not believe that HIV causes AIDS, sparking concerns that already high HIV infection rates in the country will continue to climb. Mbeki spoke with biochemist David Rasnick and Charles Gesheker, a professor of

African history at California State University at Chico. Parks Mankahlana, the president's spokesman, explained that Mbeki wanted to speak to everyone and get all opinions. But Dr. Awa Coll-Seck of the United Nations' Department of AIDS Policy in

Geneva fears that Mbeki's move could have dangerous results. "People will reassure themselves, perhaps, that they can continue risky behavior because HIV is not the real cause of AIDS," Coll-Seck said of the issue of whether there is a causal link between HIV and AIDS. Most researchers and organizations, including UNAIDS and the World Health Organization, believe the relationship between the virus and AIDS has already been well established. Rasnick and others claim that AIDS is caused by malnutrition and recreational drug use.

"Many Called Unafraid of AIDS"

Sacramento Bee Online

The 12th annual HIV and AIDS Update Conference in San Francisco highlighted the fact that many of the people most at risk for HIV infection have become complacent about contracting the disease, as death rates have declined in recent years. Dr. Mervyn Silverman, chairman of the conference, and others said that news of better treatments and a lack of emphasis on prevention are contributing to the complacency. One study found that 87 percent of young Americans feel they are not at risk for HIV, although 25 percent of new infections occur among people 25 years of age and younger. In addition, a study of 3,000 gay men between the ages of 15 and 25 revealed that 41 percent had recently participated in unprotected sex.

*Flowers leave some
of their fragrance
in the hand that
bestowed them.*

Chinese Proverb

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The AIDS Heretics

Does HIV cause AIDS?
"I seriously doubt it."

How reliable is HIV testing?
"Terrifyingly unreliable."

Why does everyone believe in it?
"The world's greatest example of mass hysteria."

Celia Farber, Nicholas Regush and Charles Ortleb question virtually everything you think you know about AIDS—what it is, what causes it, how to treat it. For their pains, they've been vilified by many AIDS activists as liars, fools and the homophobic equivalent of Holocaust revisionists. If AIDS, as many catastrophic diseases do, has developed an entire belief system about it, with its own mainstream orthodoxies and true believers, these three are definitely among the heretics, the apostates.

The first article Celia Farber ever wrote, in a 1987 Spin, was on AIDS. Her questioning of mainstream theory made her "Words From the Front" column a focus of much anger for the next decade. She's now a contributing editor at Gear. Her article "Science Fiction", in the March issue, argues that bombing healthy HIV patients with a "drug cocktail" regimen that

includes AZT and protease inhibitors—the "Hit hard, hit early" practice that has become widespread since Dr. David Ho proposed it in 1996—is causing heart attacks, strokes, liver failure and other problems. Typically, she says, it has prompted outrage from AIDS "ideologues" who are "deeply wired into the pharmaceutical interests"—but it has found favor in some surprising circles as well.

Nicholas Regush is a veteran science writer who produces segments for ABC News and writes a column, "Second Opinion," on abcnews.com. His books include *Frontiers of Healing* and *The Breaking Point: Understanding Your Potential for Violence*. As a print reporter in Montreal, "From very early on with AIDS, I began to see that the science was not being followed very carefully. There was a rush to judgment on many fronts, a lot of speculation... I smelled a rat from the very beginning, and kept up with it ever since."

His new book, *The Virus Within* (Dutton, 261 pages, \$24.95), is about Human Herpes Virus-6 (HHV-6), first identified in 1986 by Dr. Robert Gallo (better known for his HIV research). HHV-6 seems to lie dormant in virtually all of us until something triggers it into deadly action. Research is implicating it in a number of immune-related illnesses—including AIDS. The suggestion that it is even a "cofactor" with HIV in causing AIDS—let alone that it is more likely to be involved—has been met with derision.

Charles Ortleb published New York Native from 1980. "We were the first publication to do a story on AIDS, without realizing it, in 1980, when this weird pneumonia was affecting people". Until it folded in 1996—hounded out of business, in part at least, by an ACT UP boycott triggered by his outspoken

contraire views on AIDS. He now writes those views in the safer format of fiction (*Iron Peter* and *The Last Lovers* on Earth).

I met with the three of them last week. It was not an accidental grouping: they all know and support one another's work. Regush, for example, credits Ortleb and the Native's "astounding job" of AIDS reporting with educating him early on. ("I was your typical stupid science writer at the time.") Ortleb, seeing what I'd written a few weeks ago about Farber's article, suggested I read Regush's book and agreed to help conduct the interview.

Celia, what's the reaction been to your article?



CF: It's been well-received by people I would call my archenemies, but well-received from a weird angle. Larry Kramer [cofounder of GMHC and ACT UP] has sent it all over the place, saying this is alarming, everybody has to read this, Celia Farber's an asshole but she's right about this, I wish somebody else wrote it, but she's right... Some of the New York treatment activists are

like, this is important, this really made us cry—which is the shock of my entire career. This has never happened. The West Coast AIDS establishment has reacted with more typical outrage and horror and "This is irresponsible."

Let's get right down to it: Does HIV cause AIDS?

NR: I seriously doubt it. I've never seen evidence to that effect.

CF: I seriously doubt it too.

Why, then, do the government, the researchers, the entire AIDS care and treatment system and the media all believe it?

CF: The world's greatest example of mass hysteria.

NR: I've been a medical reporter for 30 years, and over the years I've seen that

medical science can convince itself of almost anything, given the right amount of money behind it and the right amount of politics displayed on behalf of it. I think anybody who's a serious medical writer today knows full well that the politics, the ideologies, the public relations interfere vastly with what goes by the name of science. Unfortunately, in the case of AIDS, there was a huge rush to judgment. It was premature, it was badly handled by everyone. Everyone jumped on the bandwagon, everyone was promised things from the start. It's almost impossible to extricate yourself once you've committed yourself to what I would say is a modern-day hysterical fantasy. As a reporter, really early on I was convinced that people were not dealing with the science, they were dealing with their own careers. A lot of people who had mediocre careers were turning them into good careers because that's where the money was starting to come from. They built this huge edifice, strongly reinforced by bad journalism—journalism that now can't extricate itself from this debacle. It would take a very brave person who's covered AIDS all these years, and constantly touted HIV theory as the cause of AIDS, to suddenly say oops, I think something's wrong here. And I know many science writers who just don't have the guts to look at these issues—because they never really looked at them from the start.

But if they're all wrong, why are incidences of AIDS going down, why does treatment seem to work in some cases—why has the epidemic crested and fallen, if they're all wrong and you're right? Shouldn't it still be spreading like wild fire?

NR: You're asking a very complicated question, and in some ways I would submit it's the wrong question.

Why?

NR: Because there's no such thing as a discrete, specific disease. Diseases are linked. We don't have static bodies. Our bodies are in dynamic relationship with everything around us. There's a whole continuum of issues that crop up. For example, take Chronic Fatigue

Syndrome, which many people think is really a crock. You take a look at many of the things these people experience, you'll find a lot of commonality with AIDS. Gastrointestinal problems, brain problems, a lot of problems that are typically categorized as AIDS. Now, to call that AIDS is just like calling everything Chronic Fatigue. The fact is, you can't separate them that easily. We're talking about categories that are preconceived and don't make a lot of sense once you start looking carefully.

But people are used to thinking of



specific diseases—there's pneumonia, there's multiple sclerosis, there's heart disease, there's this one and that one and there's a thing called AIDS. You're saying no.

CF: There's an immunity collapse. If there's such a thing, a barrier called the immune system, when it breaks down it could open the gateway to all sorts of illnesses.

CO: Do you think they made a mistake in 1980, '81, when they defined what AIDS is?

NR: They had no idea what they were talking about in those days. They even referred to gay men who had this disease as "previously healthy," without any understanding or data about the previous health status of these men. "Previously healthy" based on what medical records? People were getting ill, and to simply say they suddenly got this virus from hell, that they were "previously healthy"—in many ways that's where things really

started going wrong.

CO: What they first said was that their T-4 cells [lymphocytes in the immune system] were depleted, and that was the essence of the disease.

NR: That's wrong.

CF: That's murky, because they had never previously thought to look at T-4 cells. People can have low T-4 cell counts for other reasons. But we suddenly put enormous focus on T-4 cells and built a construct around that.

So nobody had been tracking T-4 cells before.

CF: No.

But there was a phenomenon everybody was jumping on. There was an epidemic phenomenon in 1980, '81.

CO: Yes, but there was a long list of things going wrong with these patients immunologically. It wasn't just T-4 cells, it was B-cells, natural killer cell problems, but they decided to focus just on the T-4 cells.

CF: And say there's a relationship between HIV and T-4 cells.

NR: Which became an easy handle for a huge industry to grow around.

CF: The T-4 testing industry, and the HIV testing industry.

CO: They were looking for a specific virus that killed T-4 cells. Had they said it's a disease that involves the B-cells, the natural killer cells, the monocytes, the macrophages, they might have looked for other viruses.

Had they been doing that at that point, would they have found HHV-6?

NR: Robert Gallo found HHV-6 in 1986... Here's a virus, he argued then, that, at least in the laboratory dish, could kill cells much more efficiently and faster than HIV. And even then, in 1986, no one wanted to hear about it... No one wanted to hear what this virus could do. The fact is, as we've now learned, this virus can devastate every component of the immune system.

CF: I think it's important to go back to the very beginning and see why is it that HIV was introduced to the world as the cause of

Continued on page 20

Capital City Politics



Alberta Liberals are against Bill 11

By Laurie Blakeman – Liberal MLA

No doubt, by now most of you have heard about the provincial governments' health care bill - Bill 11. And by now, most of you have heard that the bill is being hotly contested both inside and outside the provincial legislature as groups debate whether this bill will change the face of Medicare.

Let me state unequivocally that Alberta Liberals are against Bill 11, because we see the bill eroding Alberta health care, rather than protecting it. The government says that this Bill does not mean the set up of private hospitals, but the Bill does allow for the creation of "private, overnight care facilities". Well, if it walks like a duck, and talks

like a duck, it is a duck - and ladies and gentlemen, this duck is a private hospital, no matter what the Klein government wants to call it. The only difference between what Klein calls private, overnight care facilities and hospital is the availability of an emergency room.

The Klein government claims that Bill 11 will not mean queue jumping. In fact, Klein claims that queue jumping will be made illegal. Well, I've said this before. If I can afford to go to a private facility for an MRI diagnosis, then I get a diagnosis faster, and I get into the line-up for corrective surgery faster. That's queue jumping plain and simple. Money will buy me the privilege of jumping over the people who are waiting for a diagnosis at the public level.

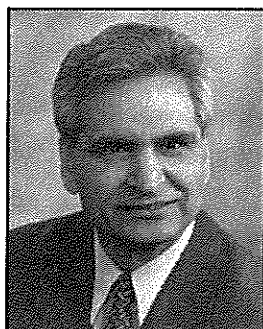
Finally, no one in the government can outline the benefits of this bill. The Klein government has been incapable of proving how this Bill benefits Albertans, other than making those who own private facilities richer. The studies they offer up are from the 1970s (and earlier) and/or excerpts taken out of context from reports that in fact do not support private or two tiered systems.

So, who's against Bill 11? The Alberta Medical Association for one. The Consumers' Association of Canada is another. Friends of Medicare, the AUPE and CUPE - all voices opposed to Bill 11. Hardly the "left wing nuts" Premier Klein has labeled them. These organizations represent people from all walks that have taken the time to review the document, have resisted the government truth squads and made up their minds on their own that this is a Bill that has no merit.

Klein's former treasurer and now the chair of the Calgary Regional Hospital, Jim Dinning has been quoted as saying that it's better to experiment than plan - but we've already seen the Klein government's propensity toward experimentation and it hasn't been good

for any of us. We've seen cuts to education, to senior's programs and to health care without a plan and all it has meant is you and me have to pay more for services that used to be part of our taxes. Join me in letting the Klein government know that enough is enough. Stop Bill 11.

If you would like more information about this or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact the Constituency office at 10042-116 Street, Edmonton, AB, T5K 1V6 Phone: 414-0743, Fax: 414-0772 or e-mail: blakeman@oanet.com



Speaking on Bill 202

By Raj Pannu – ND MLA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise to speak on Bill 202, which I find a rather offensive piece of legislation that passes the test of neither legality nor morality. First of all, Bill 202 represents an unacceptable intrusion in the jurisdiction of the federal government. Under the Constitution of Canada, legislative power over marriage and divorce rests with the federal government, not the provinces. The Alberta government historically has insisted that the federal government respect the Constitution and not make intrusions into areas that are within the provincial jurisdiction.

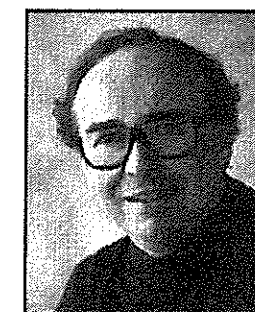
The second reason that Bill 202 should be defeated is the provocative way in which it invokes the use of the notwithstanding clause to shield it from the challenges on human rights grounds. This overlooks the fact that the courts could strike down this bill on the grounds that it offends the division of powers under the Constitution Act. If this were to take place, the bill could not even be saved by the use of the notwithstanding clause. The fact that Bill 202 sailed through second reading in this Legislature last week shows that this government and the government caucus have learned nothing from the public uproar following the introduction of Bill 26 two years ago.

Under Bill 26 the government attempted to use the notwithstanding clause to limit the lawsuits by victims of forced sterilization. Apparently the roar of Albertans did not help them to learn from the past as we are presented with Bill 202, the Marriage Amendment Act. There are those in the cabinet who have the Premier's ear who believe that this step will close the door forever to same-sex marriages. One would really hope that this very destructive and offensive bill is not being put forward to placate and pacify a few. Indeed, it would offend many, many Albertans to a terrible degree, and this time their roar will be definite.

Discrimination against same-sex couples in Alberta statutes should be eliminated. The Employment Pension Plans Act should be amended to provide spouses in same-sex relationships with the same pension benefits as are currently available to heterosexual couples. The Alberta government should move immediately on the nondiscriminatory basis to make any necessary changes to extend employment benefits to the same-sex partners of its employees. Legislation, regulation, and policies governing the adoption and fostering of children should be changed to eliminate discrimination against same-sex couples.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, New Democrats both federally and provincially have long opposed

discrimination and affirmed the importance of basic human rights. New Democrats believe there is no justifiable reason to discriminate against persons with same-sex orientation and to exclude them from equal rights and obligations imposed by law. Everyone has the right to be judged on the integrity of their character and beliefs, not on the basis of personal characteristics, including their sexual orientation. Efforts to ensure the legal equality of persons with same-sex orientation are no different than earlier efforts to ensure the equality of women and to end discrimination based on race or other characteristics.



Spring Updates

By Councillor Michael Phair

Federal legislation as introduced by Justice Minister Anne McLellan, Bill C-23 will be amended in the preamble to state that the bill makes no changes to the current definition of marriage. Otherwise the bill which recognizes same-sex relationships and will change 68 statutes will be passed by Parliament by the time you read this! Time for a 'spring' celebration!

Alberta's provincial government has been up to its dirty tricks again! On March 15 it passed Bill 202 to protect 'marriage' from gays and lesbians. In my opinion the bill is really a vindictive and hateful piece of legislation enacted to 'spite' lesbians and gay men. Edmonton PC's split their votes as Dave Hancock voted against the bill and both Julius Yankowsky and Gene Zwozdesky voted for the bill.

Alberta's infamous Bill 11 on health care continues to be the most highly controversial topic in Edmonton and I suspect across the Province. City Council will look at a resolution calling upon the Provincial Government to withdraw the bill at its April 11 meeting. It will be a lively debate and a close vote!

Locally work on Pride 2000 from June 10 to 17 is well underway. The kick off will be the Parade on Saturday June 10 at 5:30 PM. That is the same evening the Edmonton Vocal Minority will hold its Pride concert. On June 17th, the last day of Pride Week will see the Business Fair and the Community Dance that will go until dawn! The entire week will be fun and there will be quite a bit for us to celebrate in 2000.

City Council is currently looking at 5 different options for financing the collection of garbage. These options range from 100% financing from property taxes to a 'tag-a-bag' program that would charge each household according to the number of bags it puts out for collection. Any thoughts or suggestions from Times.10 readers would be welcome.

Phair's Office at city hall wants to celebrate spring this year by making sure that this is the last year of the slumbering billboard beds of few flowers along the Whitemud. The current agreement with the company that allows these advertising beds under the guise of flowerbeds terminates at the end of this year and I hope to convince Council not to renew the agreement. I continue to have people tell me that these unkempt 'beds' are unnecessary, distracting and UGLY! So now is the time to voice your opinion—should the city end this agreement and return to grass?

These are my thoughts for spring 2000 in Edmonton. Enjoy the season as winter loses its grip and new life springs forth!

Michael Phair
Councillor, Ward 4
(496-8146 phone, 496-8113 fax,
email address:
michael.phair@gov.edmonton.ab.ca)

Greater Edmonton Gay & Lesbian Community Support Groups and Services

Affirm United

(United Church of Canada) meets at McDougall United Church 10025 - 101 St. Last Saturday of the month at 7:30 - 9:30 PM. For more info, call: Larry at 429-4269 or Phyllis/Tess at 462-8896.

Alberta Pflag

Meets the last Sunday of each month at Knox-Met Church. The Church is located at the corner of 109 Street and 83 Avenue. Meeting time is 2 P.M. Contact Ellen by phone at 465-3057 or by e-mail showrsh@compusmart.ab.ca.

Alcoholics Anonymous

A A is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

AXIOS - Edmonton

AXIOS is an international organization of Eastern Orthodox and Eastern-Rite Catholic Gay and Lesbian Christians. Our mandate is to promote a greater understanding of human sexuality and spirituality within the Eastern Christian tradition. The AXIOS monthly newsletter is available via the Internet.

Badminton League

The badminton league is designed for men and 12

women of all ages and experience. Players who are interested can participate in Calgary's Western Cup Tournament during the Easter Long Weekend. For further information, please contact Bruce at 453-1244 (email: cwbyteddy@powersurfr.com) or Dennis at 471-4409.

Bare Naked Boys Club of Edmonton - BNBC

A naturist group of gay men in Edmonton interested in social nudity. This is not a sex club. Men of all ages welcome. Call Fred at 471-6993 and at the email address bnbc@interbaun.com

The B.E.A.R.S. of Edmonton

A group for hairy men and their admirers meet the last Friday of the month 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. at Boots. Or write us at #47, 10024-82nd Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6E 1Z3. Our email address is bears@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca. Our Website is: <http://www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/~bears>

Brethren Mennonite Council

For Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual concerns. This is a support community for gay, lesbian and bisexual Mennonites and friends. Contact Tim at 434-5360 or Heather at 987-4974. email address jonrach@msn.com

Dignity Edmonton

This Edmonton chapter is a

support community for gay and lesbian Catholics and friends. Contact Bernard at 451-1794 or Joseph at 481-4218

Classics

A social group for lesbians over 40. Meetings on the first Sunday of the month at 2 p.m.. Call Donna at 456-1008

Edmonton PFLAG/T

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Edmonton PFLAG/T promotes the health and well-being of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month at GLCCE. For information contact Lynne at 462-5958 or e-mail: pflag@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca.

Edmonton Prime Timers

We are a chapter of Prime Timers Worldwide, an international social organization for mature gay and bisexual men and their younger friends over 21. Our activities include: theatre nights, video nights, pub nights, Sunday brunches, and dining out. We meet the second Sunday of every month (except July and August) at 3:00 PM at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (12530 110 Ave.) for a social period, a guest speaker, and an optional supper at a restaurant. For more information, contact Peter at 426-7019, Ron by e-mail at

mercury@planet.eon.net, or better yet...join us at our monthly meeting.

Edmonton Rainbow Business Association(ERBA):

Gay men and Lesbians in business and our non-gay friends; Join us ...share your business knowledge, learn more, make new friends, network ... in positive, proud space where being yourself is the norm. Call Bill Faulkner for more information 422 6207. Call for information on our BBQ on Sept 14, or our general meetings. Membership \$25.00/yr.

Edmonton Vocal Minority

Women and men of all sexual orientations dedicated to sharing and preserving the cultural heritage of the queer community. Everyone is welcome to join this mixed voice choir as either a singer or a support member. Come and sing your pride! For information: Telephone: (780) 479.2038, E-mail: evm@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca, on the web at <http://www.planet.eon.net/~toocute/evm/>, or write to PO Box 12091, Main Post Office Edmonton, AB T5J 3L2.

Equal=Alberta [Edmonton]

Equal=Alberta [Edmonton] is a group of concerned citizens working to ensure gay and lesbian

Albertans remain protected under Alberta's Human Rights Legislation and to ensure equal treatment for all Albertans. Call: (780) 488-3234 Fax (780) 482-2855. By Email: equalalberta@hotmail.com or visit our Webpage: www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/glcce/equal.htm

Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society

The Feather of Hope was founded on a need to provide AIDS education and support to Native People in Alberta. Through education and the development of communities in partnership, it is hoped that the spread of AIDS will be lessened. Volunteers are very important to us. If you can help, or would simply like some more information, call 488-5773

Free-To-Be Volleyball Association

The Association aspires to provide opportunities for our community to play volleyball in a supportive atmosphere. 1) C-Recreation - contact Rick at 474-6785; 2) Beach (summer) - contact Rick at 474-6785; 3) B-Intermediate - contact Darcy at 425-7316; 4) Tournament - contact Andrew at 435-9379. Email: ftb.volleyball@telusplanet.net. Website: www.telusplanet.net/public/aschust/ftb.htm

Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (G.L.C.C.E.)

The Centre provides services for the general public related to the concerns and interests of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people including peer counseling (drop-in or phone), library, workshops, discussion /

support groups, and information referrals. For information: phone 488-3234; webpages <<http://freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/glcce/>> or e-mail glcce@compusmart.ab.ca. Drop-in hours: Monday through Friday, 7 to 10 PM.

Gay Men's Wednesday Coffee Evenings.

At 7:30 p.m. Café on Whyte at 10159 - 82 Avenue. This group fosters a safe, comfortable environment for all its participants. At the same time, it discourages attendance solely for sexual relations. Join us to relax, share experiences, and establish friendships. There is no age limit. Tel: 780-463-2098 (Graham) E-mail: gwatts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca. Website: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Castro/5598

Gay Men's Outreach Crew (GMOC)

GMOC is a peer education initiative for gay/bisexual men that works toward: preventing the spread of HIV among men who have sex with men, advocating for healthy lifestyle choices, and addressing social and health concerns by fostering self-esteem and gay positive attitudes. For information on GMOC workshops and other activities, please call Robert at (780) 488-5742

Gaywire

Edmonton's only radio show about gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives airs on CJSR FM88.5 Thursdays between 6 and 7 pm. Featuring news, local and international features and community events.

Guys Going Dancing

Tired of dancing alone in a

crowded club? We meet every Friday from 10:00PM at Buddy's Dance Club, 10112 - 124 Street for companionship and fun on the dance floor. To join us, contact Graham 463-2098 or e-mail: gwatts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

HIV Network of Edmonton Society (HIV Edmonton)

HIV Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. HIV Edmonton utilizes a best practices Harm Reduction approach in Health Promotion, Advocacy and Support, as well as, maintaining an extensive Resource Centre for use by health practitioners, health promoters, community organizations and those infected and affected by HIV. For more information on the activities of HIV Edmonton, please call (780) 488-5742 or contact us by email at mail@hivedmonton.com. Visit our website at www.hivedmonton.com.

Illusions Social Club

A social club for Crossdressers, Transsexuals and their supporters. We hold two socials each month, one on the second Thursday and one on the third Saturday. For more information, write to Illusions Social Club. Our mailing address is Box 1852, Edmonton, T5K 2P2; or phone 488-3234 on Tuesday evenings to talk to someone person to person.

Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations which provide direct services to gay

and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held at 8 PM on the last Wednesday of the month at the Garage. Our website is at: <http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/5904>

Interfaith Association on AIDS Edmonton

The purpose of this association is to sensitize local faith communities and their leaders to the unique spiritual and emotional needs of those infected by HIV/AIDS. The following faith communities are included: Anglican, Baha'i, Baptist, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Roman Catholic, Temple Beth Ora, Ukrainian Catholic, Unitarian and United Churches. Phone 448-1768 for more information. Email: mail@hivedmonton.com.

Lambda Christian Community Church

We are a non-denominational evangelical Christian church. One of our primary goals is to provide a safe and affirming environment for all who desire to worship God. Lambda Community Church, 11148-84 Avenue (Garneau United Church) Edmonton, T6G 0V8. Call 474-0753. Weekly Sunday service at 7 p.m.

Liatris Society

An informal social group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and straight people who enjoy gardening and outdoor nature activities. For information see

Continued on page 14 13

Support Groups and Services

Continued from page 13

www.freenet.edmonton.ab.ca/glcce/liatris.htm or contact liatrisociety@hotmail.com or William at 474-7328.

Liaison Committee, The
In June of 1993, Edmonton Police Service and the Gay and Lesbian community met for a liaison to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect. For more info, call Edmonton Police Service at 423-4567 or contact the committee at 421-2277

Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counselling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through our society. Phone 488-5768 or e-mail: livepos@connect.ab.ca.

Long Yang Club Edmonton Chapter

We are an International organization for Gay-Asians and non-Asians. We are the worlds largest with chapters in 28 cities and 11 countries. Come and Join US! Contact us via Graham at 463-2098.

Lutherans Concerned: Edmonton

We are a spiritual community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight people.

Lutherans Concerned gathers monthly for worship, sharing, and friendship. We offer individual support and a safe space for our own spiritual questions. Call Mette at 461-5571, or write P.O. Box 11095, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K4 e-mail: luthconc@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Making Waves Swim Club (MWSC)

Making Waves Swim Club is open to all who have an interest in swimming at any level: learn to swim, stroke improvement or competitive training. We swim at Bonnie Doon Leisure Centre (8205-90 Avenue) on Thursdays 8:30-9:30 PM and Sundays 8:00-9:30 PM. Contact us at: 1. Website: www.geocities.com/makingwaves_edm/home.htm 2.E-mail: makingwaves_edm@yahoo.com 3.Phone: Warren 780.497.851. 4.Attend a practice - your first swim is free!

Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)

We are a local church within the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our major focus is to the defranchised of society. The UFMCC allows anyone to feel a part of the Christian Community and to claim our place in God's Universe. Services are open to all. We worship on Sunday evenings at 7:15 at McDougall United Church - South entrance. Please feel free to join us! Call 429-2321 for more information. E-mail:

revbev@compusmart.ab.ca

M.C.C. Youth Group

Provides a safe environment for gay/les/bi/trans youth to express themselves freely, explore sexuality and to experience god's/goddess' healing and wholeness. How we intend to achieve this goal is through social, recreational, educational and cultural activities. We are meeting on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. If you have any further questions, please E-mail Pam at pamjoce@telusplanet.net. Our phone number is 429-2321

New Attitudes

We are a group for those of you who are In their mid-20's to mid-30's. We are here for socializing, meeting people, and just having fun. We do a coffee evening every third Sunday. Anything we plan to do is done on that night. We meet at The Urban Grind (10124-124st @ 7pm). It is an evening of relaxed chatting, and good coffee. We welcome any men or women who would like to join us. Please feel free to come on down for a night of conversation and Friendliness. E-Mail us at: g_mw_edmonton@yahoo.ca.

Northern Chaps

Edmonton's Leather - Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established six years ago. We strike to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern Chaps meets at Boots & Saddle. For information, phone 488-3234. The e-mail address:

geoffw@compusmart.ab.ca

Northern Titans

Northern Titans International Bowling League meets every Saturday at 5:00pm, September to April, at Reds in West Edmonton Mall. For more information, please call Garry Billett at (403) 426-6311

Outback Trailblazers

Formerly known as the River Valley Cyclists. The organization promotes recreational and outdoor pursuits within the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered communities of Edmonton and surrounding area. Future activities may include hiking, canoeing, camping, horseback riding and any other suggestions for activities are welcome. For more information, please call Dan at 440-6710 or Peter at 434-4712 or email at danzjeep@oanet.com.

OUTreach

OUTreach is a university-based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. on campus, main floor of the Athabasca Hall. Topics vary from week to week. Additional information is available by E-mail: outreach@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca

Team Edmonton

Team Edmonton - Gay Games Association is set up to provide an opportunity for persons interested in participating in the Gay Games through fund raising.

If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton, call Johann at 437-0687.

Yours Mine Ours And Us

Parenting support group for gblt parents, partners. Meets the first and third Wed. of the month from 7 - 9 p.m. Small donation for room costs. Issues of parenting, sharing skills, coming out to kids, discipline etc. Call Liz at 415-5434 or Garry at 426-6311 for more information. This is peer support, not a therapy group, nor a dating service.

Youth Understanding Youth

We meet every Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton, Suite 103, 10612-124 Street. A social support group for anyone under the age of 25 years. For more information, or to give your input email: yuyedm@hotmail.com

Visions - Unitarian Church of Edmonton

We are an open, liberal religious community that values diversity and celebrates our Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered members. With us, you are encouraged with open mind and heart to form your own set of personal beliefs. Sunday services at 9:30am and 11:15am. 12530 - 110 Ave, Ph. 454-8073. For more information, please call Kristy at 433-5843 or Mike at 482-6582.

Womonspace

We are a social and recreational society for lesbians in Edmonton. We hold monthly dances and other activities. Look for our monthly newsletter around

town or phone 482-1794. Visit our website at www.gaycanada.com/womonspace/.

Writers Club

There are several successful gay writers in Edmonton. Many more write as a hobby just for the fun of it. The goal is to establish a Writers Club which will encourage and support the serious writers of the future, and at the same time increase the pleasure of the hobbyists. The Writers Club meets biweekly on Mondays from 7:30PM to 9:30PM. For further information, location and the next meeting date, contact Graham 463-2098 or e-mail: gwallts@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

Regional Organizations

Freedom Fort McMurray

A social Support group for Gays/Lesbian/Bisexual & Transgendered Persons and their friends. For information on upcoming events and inquiries into membership, please call our Freedom line (780) 799-GAY1 (4291). To speak directly with a welcoming committee member, call between 3-6pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays. You may mail us at Freedom Fort McMurray c/o Money Mart Suite #1, 9713 Harding St. Fort McMurray, AB T9H 1L2.

Grande Prairie

Gay and Lesbian Community Box 1492 Grande Prairie, AB T8V 4Z3 e-mail: pellerin@gprc.ab.ca

Northern Rainbow Youth

A support group for High School students. Our email

address is nry13_18@hotmail.com and our web page is www.mhenley.com/ashe/nry. Any high school student can get more info by contacting their school guidance counsellor. If you want more info yourself, then you can call Crystal at (780) 790-0775 at work.

High Level Gay and Lesbian Support Group

The High Level Support Group offers info on suicide prevention, monthly meetings, provincial events, gay organizations, information on a place to meet and free

counselling provided by High level Mental Health for both gay people and parents of gay children. Our web site address is <http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/park/7702/> or write us at P.O. Box 3434, High Level, Alta, T0H 1Z0 or call 780-926-3989

Out North

Box 2827 Yellowknife, NT. X1A 2R2 Phone line: 867-669-7279 Website: www.yellowknife.com/ptartan/outnorth.htm E-mail: Out_north99@hotmail.com

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Your group can be listed here as a community service of Times 10. Please try to keep your listing updated. This is not the place to make announcements of upcoming events, just general information and a contact. You can e-mail your listing to times10@v-wave.com

A Gay Fathers Story

By Christiane Spenard and Glorian Design

At the end of October of 1998, I became a full-time parent. I had been living with my partner, Dave, for 8 years. My son Kerry, who was then 9, had been coming to visit me twice a month on the weekend. Then he came to live with us full time.

What an adjustment! Sometimes, it feels that the two-bedroom apartment we live in is very small and that we're always bumping into each other's feelings and space. Dave and I had always done whatever we wanted at home, come and go as we wished. We each had the other's full attention. Now there is this boy living with us, a boy who needs a lot of attention.

I think that any child who, all of a sudden, has to live in another home is going to need a lot of attention. Kerry needs more than most, however. He's a special needs child; he has attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and oppositional defiant disorder (ODD).

The ADHD means that he

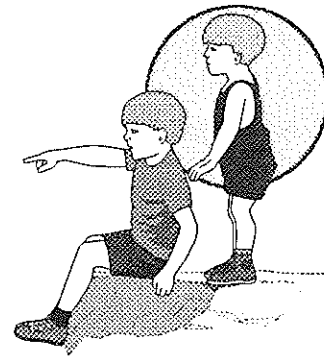
cannot sit down and concentrate on schoolwork longer than 10 minutes. He then needs to take a break. He is also in a special class. I spend time with him every night to help him do and finish his homework. The ODD means that when I say black, he says white, when I say no, he says yes. It is hard to get him to cooperate. I know that Kerry experiences a lot of anger and he has a hard time expressing it and not



turn it against himself.

I have to work hard to give him the limits he needs to operate and to feel safe. I'm a softie, I don't like conflict. I just want people to get along. So I had to learn to not back down, to use consistent rewards and consequences and to be a parent again. Dave, for his part, had to learn to be a tolerant stepparent. It is not easy for either of us. I'm very comfortable asking for help where he's concerned. I'm grateful for all the help we're getting from professionals and for the parenting group for LGBT parents, Yours, Ours, Mine and Us.

Kerry has always known I'm gay. Because he lives



with us full time, and because of his special needs, I've had to deal with Social Services, CASA (?), family doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, teachers, lawyers, etc., all of who were very comfortable with me being gay. It's never been an issue, maybe because I'm so up front with

my homosexuality. Sometimes Kerry asks questions and I wait for him to do so to explain things. I'm glad he's learning not to discriminate and glad he brings friends over. I've removed the screensaver with the hunk and put the calendars in our bedroom! We're not a touchy-feely couple, so we didn't need to make changes there, but we are discreet about our intimacy. I think our biggest challenge is to find time for us as a couple. Between Kerry and our different schedules, it can be pretty tough.

Even though Kerry's living with us has brought challenges, I wouldn't change a thing. He brings

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LOOK BETTER NAKED

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photographed by Grant Olson (780) 482-6001

me joy; I miss him when I'm not with him. I'm proud of his accomplishments. I'm happy I have the chance to really get to know my son and to bring something special to his life. I hug him, say "I love you" and tuck him in at night. Dave has started to get up with him in the morning to help him get ready for school. Because of our strange work schedules, by that time, I have already left for work and, after Kerry leaves on the school bus, Dave goes back to bed because he works nights. I know this has been difficult for Dave. He became involved with a single guy. I admire him for being

willing to try to make room for Kerry in our lives.

The attention we are able to give Kerry is paying off. He is starting to show more emotion and is generally more comfortable. He is able to be more cooperative when asked to do something. He can stay home by himself for a few hours and he goes to my parent's place once in a while. He has sleepovers. He is starting to express his feelings verbally in therapy. His progress is real, even though it is not the same as the progress of another child. He tells me he loves me and it fills my heart.

Garry Billett

Edmonton Rainbow Business Association

April Mixer and Meeting

Guests Welcome!

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Date: Tuesday April 11, 2000

At: Bloomsbury Room

(above Orlando's Bookstore, 10123

Whyte Ave., use door east of Orlando's main entrance)

Guest speaker - Kimberly Van Vliet, BA B.Sc. with Clarica

Topic -The new ERBA Group Benefits plan

Note: ERBA mixers and meetings are the now held on the second Tuesday of each month. Call Barb at 448-3660 or Bill at 422-6207 for more info or to confirm time and location for upcoming meetings.

ALGONQUIN

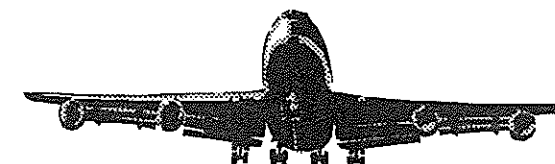
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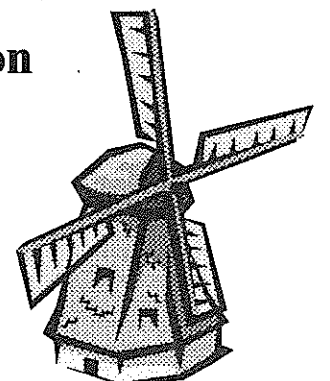
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G.L.C.C.E. NEWS

Kristy Harcourt

New 2000 - 2001 Board of Directors

On Thursday March 23rd, the five returning board members welcomed the energy and ideas of five newcomers to the G.L.C.C.E. board. Joining Rachel Carmina, Delvina Greig, Shannon McEwen, Ron Rowswell and Edward Sandberg are Bernard Dousse, Deborah Foster, Erin Kardolus, Lara Pinchbeck and Robert Smith. Welcome aboard all!

New Hours

In addition to our regular drop in hours weeknights from 7 - 10pm, G.L.C.C.E. is open for office hours weekday afternoons from 1:30 - 5:30. We welcome volunteers for afternoon and evening shifts as hosts and counsellors.

New Counselling Course

G.L.C.C.E. offers volunteers interested in acting as peer counsellors an in-depth 10-week counselling course. The course primarily focuses on active listening, and giving the client an opportunity to explore their issues and feel heard. The next course starts on April 5th, so interested parties should contact the Centre as soon as possible.

New Resources

One of the Centre's main assets is The Resource Library, an excellent source of gay and lesbian fiction, and of resource books about GLBT related issues. We would like to expand our library, to ensure that it contains cutting edge material of interest to all our client groups. To that aim, we are seeking the public's help. Each month we will publish the GLCCE Library Wish List - a list of books we'd love to offer the Centre's users. Mention that you are buying the books on our behalf and receive 10% off at Orlando Books (10123 Whyte Avenue). Our April Wishlist is:

So Your Child Is Gay - a new Canadian reference book for the parents of gays and lesbians.

Am I Blue? Coming Out of the Silence - a short story anthology about GLBT youth.

My Gender Workbook by Kate Bornstein- an essential Transgender resource.

Belinda's Bouquet by Leslea Newman - a

children's picture book about body image (with a positive portrayal of lesbian moms).

All of this is just a sample of what's new at The Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton. We invite everyone to see it for himself or herself. G.L.C.C.E. is located at #103, 10612 - 124 street.

HIV EDMONTON

Positively Gay Support Group

An eight week support group for gay or bisexual men living with HIV. Group will focus on topics such as self-esteem, relationships, empowerment, living well and other topics of interest to partici-

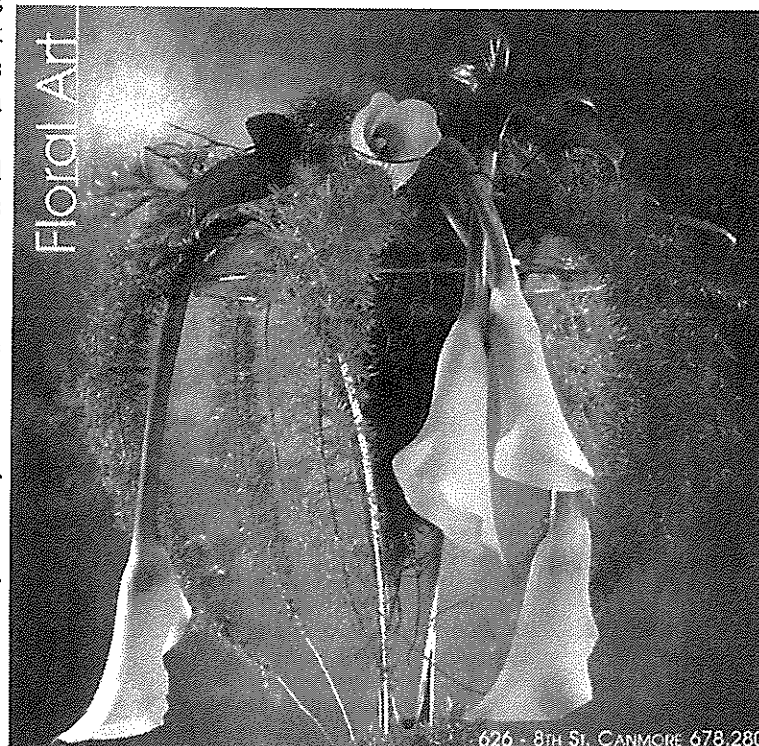
Starting Tuesday April 11, 2000
time and location to be announced

*Remember, you are not alone,
so contact Nick or Deborah by phone, fax or email and secure a spot.*

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AIDS Heretics

Continued from page 9

AIDS. There was a press conference in April 1984 where Robert Gallo, then working at the National Cancer Institute, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler, stood together at the podium and announced, the exact words were, "The probable cause of AIDS has been found." And Nick may remember how many days the world "probable" remained in the news accounts.
NR: Not long.

CO: And it should've been, "the probable cause has been stolen."

CF: Right. You see, the day before there'd been a big story in the Times that the French were closing in on the probable cause of AIDS. In 1983 Françoise Barre-Sinoussi had identified a new retroviral entity that they called LAV. She'd given it to Luc Montagnier [researcher, author of Virus], and he'd sent it to Gallo and said take a look at this. The French had never said they believed this was the cause of AIDS. It shocks a lot of people when they hear this. People think there must have been some arduous process of arriving at the decision that this virus might be the cause of AIDS. There was nothing. Nothing other than the French sending it to the States, and the U.S. government getting up at a podium and saying, "We've found the probable cause." There was no peer review, no discussion, nothing. The virus wasn't even present in 100 percent of Gallo's original sample.
NR: It was present in a very, very small amount of his sample.
CF: And that later became, "Well, maybe we didn't know then that it was the cause of AIDS, but we know it now." Which is an astounding admission. If you didn't know it then, why did you say it?

Was there something unique about the circumstances that an answer so tenuous was leaped on instantly and universally as the answer, the magic bullet?

NR: First, I think it's because it was gay men coming down with the illness. This is a fundamentally homophobic society, and a racist society to boot. My own feeling is that if these had been heterosexual men in the prime of their lives, there would have been more care taken to try to understand what had occurred. I'm not gay, so I don't have any ax to grind here, but I feel very strongly about this...



CO: Don't you think the announcement that they had found the cause ended the panic of 1980, '81?

NR: But it also created a further panic about this evil virus. Which nobody had even defined at this point. Nobody had properly defined its genetic structure. No one was even able to show it grow. It calmed some people, having found the cause, but it created huge panic about this virus being unleashed. Remember, people didn't want to shake the hands of gay men during this time. They were avoiding toilets. Rumors were flying like crazy. They created a huge panic. And a lot of this, I'm as convinced now as I was then, was done for the purpose of fundraising—to try to get

money for research.

But if this is just the government picking an answer and running with it, to the detriment of, at the very least, the gay community, why did the gay community jump on it and defend it to this day? And hound Charles Orlieb out of business for questioning it?

NR: Well, it wasn't just the government. The government went with this because it was politically expedient to have a probable cause, even though they didn't have any proof. You know, proof of causation requires a lot of data, and they didn't have that data at the time, but they went with it anyway. So they really went out on a limb and made a lot of promises. That affected the way research got funded. It brought in a lot of scientists, all over the country, who began getting grant money and began feasting. And I use that word "feasting" not with abandon. I really believe that. And when this kind of edifice gets built up, it begins to take on a powerful credibility. I think that with members of the gay community feeling the pain of AIDS as much as they did—particularly in the early years, when a lot of discrimination was also part of the process—I think this community was vulnerable to the huge force of science before them. Their own doctors were telling them, "You guys have to accept that something's very wrong here. This is a virus that's hitting you, and yeah, we don't have all the data, but we're getting it." They sold a bill of goods to the gay community beyond anything I've ever seen as a medical writer.

CF: As terrifying as the viral threat was, at least it was a construct where you could test for it, you could test your T-cells, now you can test your "viral load"—there are all these ways that people can manage their anxiety. And to answer the question of why did all these people fall for it, the AIDS organizations and so on, the best way I can answer that is to refract back the attacks that we tend to get. The most common one by far has been, "What you're doing is only going to promote unsafe sex." At the time, they considered it their revolutionary success that they'd convinced everybody to use condoms. I'm talking about the AIDS industry.

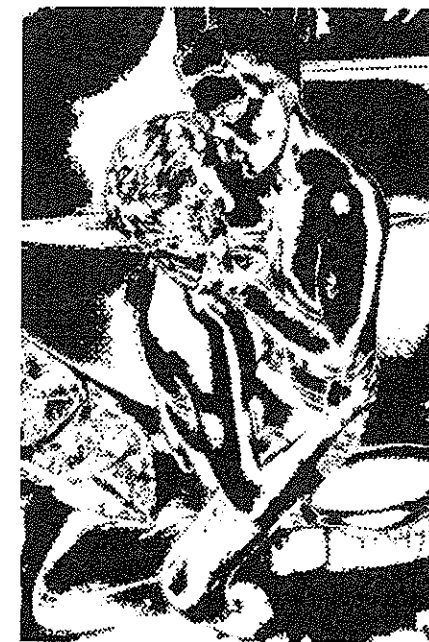
NR: One thing that interests me is that every disease group, every group of people

who are ill, basically behave similarly. They begin to try to coalesce around a common point, whether it's heart disease, cancer, multiple sclerosis, whatever. They then look for funding. They then look to make careers out of their own disease—not everybody, but there's a real pattern there. We can forgive them to some extent, because I think it's just human nature to want to do that. But with AIDS, it got exacerbated by huge sums of money that the drug industry began to pour into these support groups. They co-opted these people very early on. They set

they gave them ideology, they gave them playback. So that anytime someone like me would go to them, they would just give me the drug company playback. And I would say excuse me, but can you tell me what you think? And I would get drug company playback. It was awesome how fast and furiously they got co-opted. And, to this day, they won't admit it. That's part of the problem.

CF: They love to say that all this drug company money they take doesn't influence their opinions.

NR: Just like doctors say that taking drug company money doesn't create



This sounds extraordinarily cynical. You're saying that the entire medical community has been bought by the drug companies.

NR: It's not through willful intention. These things happen subtly and over a long period of time... By and large, most physicians intend to do good, but the roads to hell are paved with good intentions. They don't read the science, for one thing, the ground troops. There are thousands and thousands of articles poured out all the time. Who's going to read all that? So they begin to respond as they do with heart drugs, cancer drugs—they simply prescribe.
CF: And I think most of them truly believe HIV is the cause of AIDS.
NR: Absolutely.

(This article was originally printed in the New York Press. Our version has been edited for space purposes. Permission to reprint from New York Press. If you have Internet access you can read the entire article at the following address: www.nypress.com.)

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Speaking Of Normal

By Liz Massiah, MSW, RSW
Registered Clinical Social Worker

(With Gordon Portman)
Editor and award winning
playwright

We live in a violent world. We experience that fact on any number of levels: person to person, nation to nation, majority to minority, as physical or emotional or sexual ... it's there, and it's not going away. Violence is the solution, violence is the language to use to be in control, violence is the way people use to be in charge, or to get their way. Violence is the way we get noticed. A lot has been said and written about the reasons why this is, but no one really knows. Personally, I think it comes down to the notion that we do things this way because we can. Despite some good intentions, our social sanctions are so minimal that they are generally irrelevant.

As individuals we experience violence in one of two ways: as a participant (either on the "giving" or "receiving" end) or as an observer, a witness. Such experiences can run the gamut from gay-bashing or sexual assault to a horrendous accident to child sexual abuse to ongoing adult emotional abuse to being a Canadian Peacekeeper and having to see unimaginable horrors done to children. Some of us experience violence, either as an observer or a participant, and have few serious ongoing residual impacts. Others, however, have similar experiences and experience long lasting after-effects. If you have experienced a violent incident of any kind, and three months later you are still having nightmares or flashbacks, or your anger is increasing or your sleep is disturbed, or you're experiencing any difficulty in functioning as well as you would feel you should, you likely have developed what is known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Now I am not one to use these medically oriented, diagnostic labels very readily. There have been, and continue to be, huge fights about labeling in lots of contexts, and sometimes I am on the side of those who are against such things. Sometimes, though, having a label helps: not to make light of the subject, but I like to know if it really is

raspberry jam in the jar and not strawberry. And when I am seriously troubled, I want to know how to name my experience: if I can do that, if I can find some beginning words, a place to start, then I'm freed up to find other possibilities, other ways of being. To look at it another way: beginning to identify the problem usually takes away the sense of "I'm losing it, I'm hopeless, I'm a freak". Remember finding a name for your love of your own gender? Sometimes a label is very freeing ...

The disorder can often be identified by behaviours that consistently show up in people who've been traumatized. In my experience, there are three broadly defined types of such behaviours. The first might be described as numbing, as trying to avoid feelings associated with the trauma. We may abuse alcohol or drugs, work long hours to keep ourselves distracted, dissociate frequently (separate our emotional selves from our bodies). We may become more and more isolated (don't want to go to movies or to parties or even out for coffee in case we get triggered); we may not walk in certain areas. In other words, we act to protect ourselves from being reminded of the traumatic event.

A second type of behaviour shows up as the old events continually demanding our attention. We have nightmares, flashbacks, hallucinations; the sight of a picture of children may "reduce" a strong soldier to instant tears; the sound of a certain song may overwhelm us with fear; certain touching may recreate the experience of a sexual assault. These images and memories come upon us suddenly and without our willing them, or being able too readily stop them.

A third scenario sees hyper-arousal take over. We startle remarkably easily; we interpret casual gestures as threats (for example, we jump when someone raises their hand to reach for a pen); rage takes over at the drop of a hat (our child asks a question and we feel we are going to explode with anger). People stay away from us out of fear and confusion and we are glad to be left alone.

The sense of hopelessness and/or helplessness that results from experiencing any of these behaviours contributes to what

I refer to as 'belief shock'. Our notions of the world as a reasonable, safe place are violated, shattered; we do not seem to be able to reinvent our beliefs, but instead feel trapped in our trauma. It's as if those experiences say "I am in charge now, I call the shots, and to hell with how you want your life to be." There does not seem to be a sense of purpose, or a sense that life will ever be the same. This is also part of PTSD.

Further: other life experiences may be built on the basis of beliefs that arise from an experience of violence ... when we are traumatized, often we start to believe that the world is a dangerous and unsafe place. This sometimes produces a kindling effect, as other traumas pile on top of this already damaged base and may eventually become overwhelming. As a result, sometimes a seemingly minor event sets off a "trauma response" years after the original incident: a woman has a car accident and the person who hit her car wears the same after-shave as the man who had sexually abused her when she was a child. Up until that moment she has no conscious memory of the abuse and then suddenly there she is, terrified.

This all may sound pretty glum, but the reality is that healing does happen. And no, you don't have to 'go back into' the original trauma to heal from it: there are ways of working with these pains that do not in themselves create new pain in the process. Techniques such as hypnosis, EMDR (a specific set of skills used in trauma related work to speed up and amplify the healing process), cognitive approaches to deal with the belief shock. All of these, and others, combine to heal the damage, restore a faith in a hopeful future, and establish beliefs about more possibilities in life. None of this means that history will be revised, and we will live as though the violence never happened: that is a magical way of believing we all engage in from time to time, but unfortunately things don't usually work that way. What it does mean is that we can find a way to own our memories, our pasts, and our experiences, **without** their continuing to traumatize us. We find a way to move on, and not remain stuck. We re-connect with hope ... one of the strongest weapons against the impact of violence we've got.

(The opinions in this article are those of the authors only. They are not intended to replace consultation with a qualified, legally accountable professional.)

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The Continuing Arguments on Oral Sex

By Robert Smith, Health Promotions
HIV Edmonton

It seems that the dialogue continues. Recently two arguments in direct opposition to one another and from different parts of the world arrived at HIV Edmonton around the "dangers" and "merits" of oral sex. HIV Edmonton has taken the approach that we do not want to be involved in health promotion campaigns that promote scare tactics; nor do we wish to be involved in campaigns that continue to treat gay male sexual activity in a negative light. We are submitting both articles as part of our endeavour to provide the information necessary for gay men and all populations to make healthy decisions about their own sexual activities and lifestyles. A bit of "Oral Sex 101" is added at the end of this article to help each of us decide for ourselves where we place our own risk level.

Oral Sex: Study Reveals Risks for HIV Transmission

Source: Kaiser Daily HIV/AIDS Report

The risk of contracting HIV through oral sex is higher than experts previously thought, according to the most definitive study to date on the subject. Recently, researchers presenting at the Seventh Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic

Infections said that in a study of the possible modes of transmission among 102 newly infected gay and bisexual men, 8% of those infections resulted from performing unprotected oral sex (Sternberg, USA Today, 2/2). The researchers, from the Centre for Disease Control and the University of California-San Francisco, said that while some reports of oral transmission have cropped up in the past, new diagnostic tests allowed them to pinpoint the time of infection (Haney, AP/Charlotte Observer, 2/2).

Taking "great pains" to determine the mode of infection, researchers used medical records, interviews with the men and, when possible, interviews with their partners. Although many health officials have suspected oral sex could pose some risk of HIV transmission, some researchers were surprised at the magnitude of their results. "It was higher than we expected. This may be a significant way that men who have sex with men get infected," UCSF researcher Dr. Frederick Hecht said. He noted that while "there's a lot less unprotected anal sex than there was a few years ago...there hasn't been the same reduction in unprotected oral sex, which has probably become an important mode of transmission." However, he noted that engaging in unprotected receptive anal sex

is 100 times more likely to transmit the virus (USA Today, 2/2).

Dr. Ronald Valdiserri, deputy director of the CDC's HIV prevention center, said, "its certainly sobering news. We've known... that there was a risk of HIV transmission through oral sex. Of course scientists indicated that they thought it was a much smaller risk compared to anal or vaginal sex" (Fox, Reuters/Contra Costa Times, 2/2). He added that oral transmission does not require open sores or bleeding gums as "[t]iny nicks and abrasions probably could give a portal of entry to the virus."

Not Just Gay Men

Valdiserri expressed concern for teens and young adults who engage in oral sex because they believe it poses no risk of AIDS. "Not just gay

men have oral sex. We need to be sure that young people, many of whom practice oral sex as an alternative to vaginal sex, need to understand there's a risk here," he said (Knox, Boston Globe, 2/2). Dr. Helene Gayle, the CDC's AIDS chief, said, "We know that the only safe sex is total abstinence or sex with a mutually monogamous, non-HIV-infected partner. Everything else has some degree of risk."

Oral Sex Risk Overstated:
WAAC (Western Australia Aids Council)
Gavin McGuren
West Side Observer

Continued on page 26

My Monthly Neurosis

By Rob Browatzke

There's a darker side recently discovered to my favorite activity, a side so far past tragic that even 'catastrophic' seems an inadequate description. It's a bar, so one expects a certain amount of substance (ab)use: alcohol, cigarettes, and a variety of etceteras that need no specific identification. In moderation, the highs, the lows, the numbness can be fine, but there reaches a point where the substance seems to take control.

If you're at the bar often enough, you can see the effects. Bloodshot eyes ringed in black. Slack expressions, dulled perceptions. People aging before their time. People dying before your eyes. They're GOOD people, with talent and potential, with their whole lives ahead of them. Some nights, it seems painfully obvious those lives will be cut short. Some nights, it's all you can do not to cry.

I'm not talking about getting drunk once a week. I'm talking about being unable to be at the bar without a cocktail (or six) in hand. About twitching at the thought of scoring that next hit. About waking up long enough to shower, shave, and get to the bar in time for a happy hour breakfast.

But it's such a pleasant addiction right? The lowering of inhibitions, the dancing like no one's watching, that numbness needed to forget that childhood dreams and adult ambitions are remaining unfulfilled as you buy that next jug of draft. And so what if more and more often you end up passed-out next to no one, unable to remember anything after that last shooter sale? So what if the debts are building up because Power or Gas or Food aren't as important as tomorrow night's highballs? So what if you decide to drive home drunk so that your cab fare can buy you another two cocktails?

Try just sitting sober at the bar one night. Watch the people arrive, shiny and happy and full of life. Watch them trade that happiness for a 3.50 highball (2.75 from 7 - 9). Watch the eyes close, hear the speech slur, see the faces age and decay before you. And when Last Call is called, try not to liken the stumblers fighting over the cab to walking corpses. If you can watch that without pangs of empathy and disgust, you're stronger than I.

It seems a problem getting worse. Turn on the news to see the latest drug-related arrests at nightclubs. It's a world inundated in a literal opiate for the masses, but as people bow down at their porcelain altars and pray that their buddy pulls through his latest OD, it becomes more and more obvious that this new covenant wine has soured.

But there is no answer. Everyone has to endure his or her own Gethsemane, and

salvation for one is not the same as for another. But when you've seen people you've known for years unable to remember their own name (much less yours), you realize it's a salvation that cannot be found at the bottom of a bottle.

I hope we all reach the end of our road safely, but until then, happy trails.

Outreach

A meeting place rather than a meat market, Outreach is a haven for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and open minded people from all Edmonton and area post secondary institutions. We provide an environment for people to come out and be themselves in a safe and supportive atmosphere. We get together for movie nights, book clubs, guest speakers, pot

luck dinners, and dances, but we are more than just a social group. We also provide educational resources and information that affect the Edmonton community and beyond. We are open to students, staff, and faculty, and we encourage diversity. We meet every Tuesday at 5 p.m. during the regular school year at Athabasca Hall on the University of Alberta campus. However, if you wish to contact us during the summer, you can check out our web page by going through the U of A web server at www.ualberta.ca, or you can e-mail us at uofaoutreach@hotmail.com. The new executive council has been elected and looks forward to meeting you all in the fall.

Queerly yours,
Jeff and Joanne

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Continued from page 24

The AIDS epidemic among men who have sex with men would be much larger if transmission of HIV through oral sex was as common as a US study has suggested. So says the Western Australian AIDS Council, which believes the study, released in California last month takes a large leap of faith. As reported in the last issue of WSO, the 7th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections was told that a study of gay men in San Francisco recently infected with HIV-1 suggests that in about 7 percent of cases, the virus was transmitted during oral sex. Dr. Frederick M. Hecht of the University of California, San Francisco, and colleagues there and at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, evaluated 122 individuals who were diagnosed with recently acquired HIV-1 infection between June 1996 and June 1999.

Upon further evaluation, and elimination of cases in which HIV-1 transmission may have occurred through another means, Hecht's group classified eight cases (6.6%) as likely due to oral HIV-1 transmission. The WA AIDS Council's Peer Education Manager, Graham Brown, said oral sex had always been considered to carry some risk of transmission. The likelihood of infection was extremely low, however, with only a handful of cases proven. "This recent USA study makes a big leap of faith claiming that because 6.6 per cent of a small study of 122 men, said they felt they had become infected through oral sex that this means 6.6 per cent of HIV is contracted it through oral sex," Mr. Brown said. "If this was true, the epidemic would be far, far worse than even the epidemic we currently face." A number

of other studies in Australia, USA and the UK which have followed larger cohorts of men over time have found no correlation with oral sex and HIV transmission.

The CDC study implied that because 6.6 per cent of men in a small study said they had become infected through oral sex, then 8 per cent of the thousands of gay men living with HIV contracted it through the same means. "Following a group of men over time who only have oral sex, and observing the outcome, is a far more reliable indicator of relative risk than post-hoc self reported risk factors. Especially in a country where there is a high level of stigma involved in admitting to unprotected anal sex," said Mr. Brown.

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organizations described the research as inaccurate and flawed and slammed alarmist media coverage of the report. Men at the most risk of contracting HIV are those who engage in receptive anal intercourse without a condom.

**"Oral Sex: 101" or
Fellatio in Plain Language.**

-The most commonly held theory on fellatio, (giving head, sucking/licking, blow jobs), or male to male oral sex is this is one of the reduced risk or theoretical risk sexual activities. Though the above arguments present conflicting reports of HIV infection as a result of exposure to semen while giving head, the statistics must be considered relatively low compared to other areas of transmission, ie anal sex, vaginal sex, and intravenous drug use. In fellatio the receiver is at less of a risk than the sucker/licker. That said, no one is going to tell you sucking

is completely safe, nor is anyone going to tell you to abstain entirely. The choice is yours and yours alone.

-A more awaking reality focuses on the substantial risks arising from other STD's such as syphilis, gonorrhea, herpes, hepatitis B, and chlamydia that can be transmitted through unprotected (without a condom) oral sex.

-Never take a penis in your mouth if you have opened sores, lesions or fresh dental work. If HIV is present in the blood stream, it will be in pre-cum and semen. If you have open sores in the mouth or throat, there is a greater possibility that the transmission of the HIV virus can happen through these areas.

-Never take a penis or any body part into your mouth or other body cavity that is obviously irritated/abraded/lesioned or just plain unhealthy looking.

-Don't participate in giving head immediately after brushing your teeth, flossing, or using a toothpick. The irritated gums are sensitive and could be damaged by the constant and continuous intrusion of an invading penis (the recommended waiting time is 30 minutes). Never give head immediately after dental work, (as if you could with a frozen mouth). It is important to wait until the dental work (particularly extraction or dental surgery) is completely healed.

-A hazard of prolonged, rough (deep thrusting), and repeated (with the same or multiple partners) oral sex is the possible damage to your mouth and the back of the throat. The tissues may become irritated, and more permeable, thereby increasing the risk of infection.

-Avoid taking ejaculate (cum, sperm, etc.) into your mouth, and if it gets in there, spit it out.

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Greater Edmonton Pride Pages: 2000 Edition

The 5th edition of the Greater Edmonton Pride Pages is in the planning stages. The Pride Pages, as they are known, is an annual directory of businesses and services that are by members of Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community and others who are committed to serving our community with integrity.

Each year, 5000 copies of the directory are printed and distributed throughout the greater Edmonton area during the year. They are also distributed in major centres from Ottawa to Vancouver.

The 1999 edition was put into every public library in Edmonton and they have requested copies of the 2000 addition as well. Edmonton Tourism is considering greater distribution as well. They are available at City Hall and many local businesses carry them year round. Many people use the Pride Pages regularly and choose to use a Pride Pages advertiser first.

This year, the Pride Pages will be released on June 9, 2000, the release being the centre of a Press Conference that will kick off Pride Week 2000. It will

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have a full colour cover and advertisers will also be able to designate their business as GLBT owned or operated if they choose. Again, 5000 copies will be printed and distributed. Even though the Pride Pages is now published by Graphics 2000, it will still be distributed to the public free of charge and a portion of the profits will be returned to the community.

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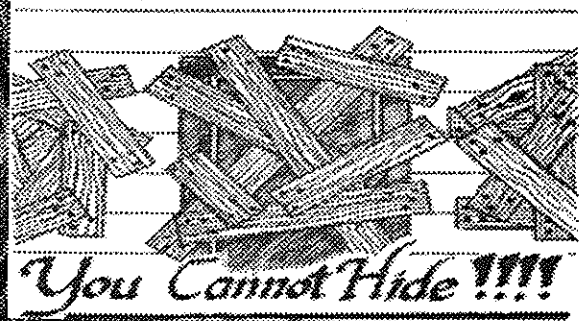
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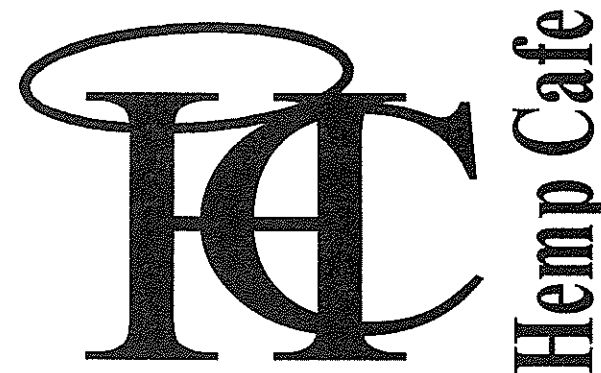
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You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success! The clock is running. Make the most of today.

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Breaking Away

Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands, is considered by many to be the gay capital of Europe. The city is a playground for gaymen and lesbian women, offering a wide array of both day and night activities. The gorgeous canals and beautiful 16th and 17th century gabled homes offer scenery that is both awe-inspiring and unique. Restaurants and cafes are plentiful, and the shopping is considered to be excellent. And with pretty much everything located within walking distance of it's center, Amsterdam is a perfect city for those that want to see it all at a leisurely and relaxed pace.

Amsterdam boasts four gay areas throughout its boundaries. The first and oldest of these is Kerkstraat. You will not find a lot of nightlife in this area. It is, however, where you will find the majority of the city's gay hotels. The two more trendy gay areas are Reguliersdwarsstraat (sorry, it took me a while to pronounce too!) and Amstel. The first is where you will want to be during the summer months. During this time of year, it is the streets more than the bars that provide the setting for nightlife. The most popular bar is April Bar, both inside and out. Warmoesstraat is where you will find the Red Light District, famous for its male and female prostitutes. If you plan to visit the district, do not take your camera, as picture taking is heavily frowned upon.

With four gay areas, there is a

wide selection of gay bars. Some of the more popular ones include Doll's Place, Gaiety (younger crowd), and Reality. Male cruise bars come in variety of themes, with hard-to-miss names such as Fierce, Club Trash and Cockring. Women may want to visit the women only bars Saarein, Vivelavie, and You II. Students will not want to miss Trut, a very popular and busy student bar.

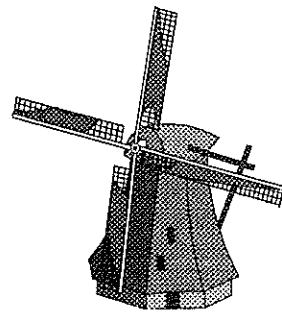
If you are travelling to Amsterdam, look to see if any events are being held around the time you are going.

Amsterdam Pride always promises to be a big celebration, and this year is no exception. The largest event planned is the Canal Parade. The parade will be unlike the traditional pride parade, consisting of a route on solid ground. The parade, instead, will float down the city's canals. Other planned activities include sports competitions, an open air film festival, and, of course, several street and disco parties. The official pride party will be the White Party, which, true to its name, has a dress code of white. The festivities will finish up with an open-air party set around city hall. This year's Amsterdam Pride is set to take place from August 4th to the 6th.

If you will be in Amsterdam on November 3rd and 4th, you will want to check out Amsterdam Leather Pride. This celebration boasts Europe's biggest leather, rubber and fetish party.

Most people visiting Amsterdam prefer to do their sightseeing by foot or by bicycle. As pretty much everything is within walking distance, walking is a feasible option. Remember, however, to use common sense in regards to

your safety. Bicycles will be seen almost everywhere you go. They are available for rent in several locations, including the rail station. Bicycle lanes are separate from traffic lanes, and are clearly marked as such. Remember that these lanes are not for walking, and bikers can be somewhat uncourteous to those that choose to use them as such. Be sure to bring raingear,



as it can be very cold and wet throughout the year.

Those that want to see the rest of the Netherlands may want to purchase a Holland Rail Pass. It

is probably the most economic and simple way to see the country. The scenery from the train is fantastic, with views of flowers, windmills and coast.

With same-sex marriages being legalized this past year, Amsterdam seems to be well ahead of everywhere else in recognizing the gay and lesbian community as a part of society. It's gay friendly attitude is one that gay men and lesbian women everywhere should be able to enjoy. But don't just take my word for it, experience it yourself.

Travel Trivia - What does Amsterdam's current mayor, Schelte Patijn, commonly refer to Amsterdam as.

Answer - "The gay way to Europe"

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In light of the slaying of John Fenrich

Daily News Staff Writers

Cops say John Fenrich had a terrible secret.

Enraged by his stepson's homosexuality, the Long Island father is suspected of

dismembering the teenager, burning the skin off the head with acid and scrawling racist and anti-gay epithets on the bleached skull, police sources said. After the remains were found Tuesday - and after the trail of clues began to point to Fenrich - the 36-year-old clambered atop his Dix Hills home with two guns early yesterday, firing a few rounds and keeping cops at bay for eight hours before killing himself.

"I'm a failure as a father," Fenrich yelled at cops before firing a bullet into his head. "Shoot me, shoot me. What are you waiting for?" In plot line out of a dark, twisted thriller, Fenrich's life started

unraveling 20 hours earlier and 50 miles west, when a man taking a walk in Alley Pond Park in Bayside, Queens, found a big blue plastic tub, police sources said. The man opened the tub and found the acid-burned skull, a foot bone with flesh on it and other crushed body parts. He took the tub with its grisly contents to stunned Emergency Service Unit cops who happened to be parked nearby, the sources said. The skull was scrawled with a Social Security number and a racist and anti-gay slur, according to the sources. Police initially suspected the grim find might be the

result of an occult killing because the Social Security number included "666."

Steen Fenrich

Investigators later traced the number to Steen Fenrich, 19, a popular Half Hollow Hills High School graduate who entered the Army in July 1997 and served nine months before being discharged. He had left his parents' Dix Hills home last fall. The bones had not been positively identified last night, police said, and the acid damaged the enamel of the victim's teeth, preventing a dental match. Still, cops have little doubt they are Steen Fenrich's remains, the

sources said. When detectives told John Fenrich late Tuesday night that they had found Steen's body, he pointed the finger at his stepson's gay lover, saying the two "had a fight," a source said. But both the boyfriend and one of Steen Fenrich's best friends told police they should look at the father, police said. At 5 a.m., John Fenrich, who was white, called a producer at a Long Island cable television station and threatened to kill his wife, Wanda, who is black, and their other son, John David, 15, police said. Cops had suspected Fenrich was his stepson's killer, and not just a grief-stricken parent, because he knew

undisclosed details about the grisly discovery. He told the TV producer that his stepson had been found "all chopped up" - but NYPD detectives never told him the body had been dismembered, police sources said. As cops pulled up to the brown-shingled split-level home, Fenrich scrambled up to the roof waving a rifle and a handgun. As his wife and son escaped, Fenrich fired in the air several times and kept the neighborhood hostage for hours, police said. Arman Shagholami raced home after hearing about the standoff just three doors from his home. "It's a very quiet

neighborhood. Nothing like this ever happens," said Shagholami, whose family had left before the shooting started. Cops believe John Fenrich killed Steen Fenrich - the biracial son of his wife - in a homophobic rage, possibly several weeks ago, according to sources.

Investigators theorized Fenrich, after storing the body parts, dumped them in the park recently to point cops to his stepson's gay lover, the sources said. The stepson and his lover had lived nearby. Gay activists said the killing was a hate crime, even if it was within a family. "People think bias crimes happen to

strangers," said Carl Locke of the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project. "But a father can also kill a son because he is queer. It happens more often than people want to believe." Fenrich also had been accused of being a scam artist. Along with his wife, he was awaiting trial on insurance fraud charges stemming from 17 allegedly staged car accidents. Both of his brothers are with the NYPD, one a detective and one a sergeant. The sergeant went to the shooting scene yesterday to try to negotiate his brother's surrender.

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AstroLamp Horoscopes



Aries March 21 - April 19
Power issues

relationships seem to colour the environment right now. This causes you to withdraw and reflect. There have been major changes - in your current relationship status. Talk about your feelings.



Taurus April 20 - May 20
Social activities and rekindling old

friendships that you thought had passed out of your life are highlighted. Finances are improving too. This is a good time to save money - a little bit goes a long way.



Gemini May 21 - June 21

You've been working a lot lately - more than usual - and there will be great opportunities for you that will influence your career long-term. Promotion looks very possible. Keep up the good work - it will pay off.



Cancer June 22 - July 22

Your feelings of uncertainty about your job situation will continue. Just when you begin to feel certain and secure, something happens to rock the boat. Studying or taking courses in another

field to switch to that one may help.



Leo July 23 - August 22

A trip is strongly indicated - one where you just want to take off and get away. You won't be alone for long! You will meet someone for a short-term relationship - a fling - whether you go away on a trip or not!



Virgo August 23 - September 22

Well, a new mate is certainly indicated and you will meet when you least expect it. Of course, there will not be a shortage of activities for you to indulge. Don't take this relationship for granted or it will not last.



Libra September 23 - October 23

You are feeling better and finding you are popular at work. Have fun! This is a great time to make connections, network, and make friends. If you are single, play the field for a while.



Scorpio October 24 - November 22

It seems that romance, er, relationship opportunities are everywhere! Be careful! Not

all of them are intended to be long-term. You will hook up with someone either considerably younger or older than you.



Sagittarius November 23 - December 21

If you maintain interests and projects separate from your work, you will be much happier. Continuing to pursue other work opportunities couldn't hurt either. Learning about yourself could be your main goal.



Capricorn December 22 - January 19

Lots of activity at home right now right now. Are you remodeling? There may also be tension found at home - by someone who likes to set up too many rules.



Aquarius January 20 - February 18

Money issues seem to be highlighted. You are in a position to buy things that you enjoy. There is also satisfaction found at work right now too. Try and save some money, as your luck has been up and down for a while now.

Pisces February 19 - March



20
Clashes with superiors - people who

are blaming you for problems that are occurring is highlighted right now. Trying to win each battle is not the same as winning the war. Take time to recharge your batteries.

- Suzanne Clark
Sun sign astrology is for entertainment purposes only and does not replace the value of having a full consultation - where astrology really shines. Do you have any personal questions that you would like answered? Drop me e-mail at astrolampastrology@hotmail.com. If you are asking about yourself or another please include day/month/year/place of birth/birthtime if you have it.

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A Message from Edmonton's new Mr. and Mz. Gay Edmonton

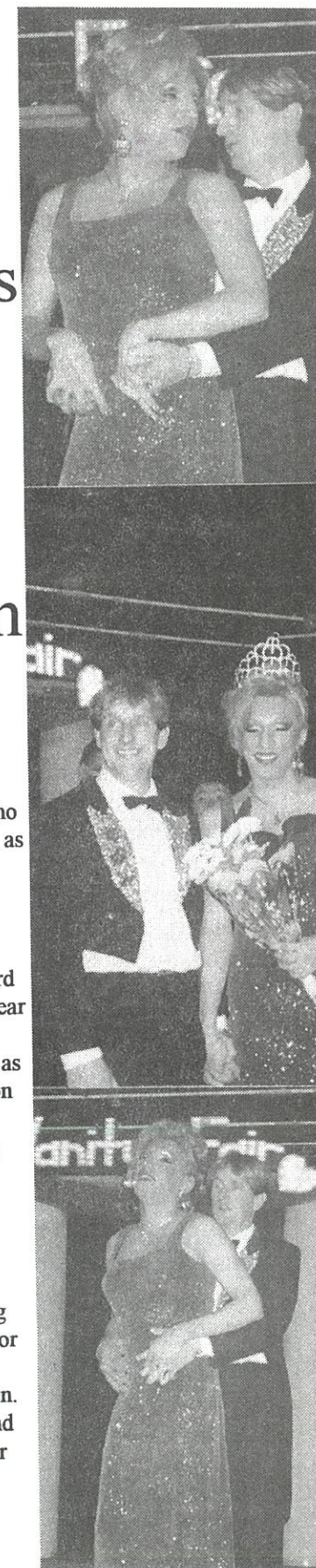
Greetings and salutations Edmonton! Derek and I would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to everyone who came out and supported us, as well as paid their respects and gratitude to our friend Vanity Fair.

We are both looking forward to a colorful and eventful year 2000. We will do our part and then some in our roles as Mr. and Mz. Gay Edmonton XIII. We love this city, which has the best looking people and kindest hearts. We will represent you in other cities with pride and lots of fun.

If you have any fundraising ideas, concerns, questions or comments, come up and approach us. We will listen. Again, thank you to all, and we look forward to the year 2000.

Your friends,

Ladonna and Derek



You and Your Funny Bone..:)

The Blonde and the Lawyer

A lawyer and a blonde woman are sitting next to each other on a long flight from LA to NY. The lawyer leans over to her and asks if she would like to play a fun game. The blonde is tired and just wants to take a nap, so she politely declines and rolls over to the window to catch a few winks. The lawyer persists, saying that the game is really easy and a lot of fun.

He explains how the game works: "I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me, and visa-versa." Again, she politely declines and tries to get some sleep.

The chauvinistic lawyer figures that since his opponent is a blonde he will easily win the match, so he makes another offer: "Okay, how about this "If you don't know the answer you pay me only \$5, but if I don't know the answer, I will pay you \$50."

This catches the blonde's attention and, figuring that there will be no end to this torment unless she plays, she agrees to play the game. The lawyer asks the first question. "What's the distance from the earth to the moon?" The blonde doesn't say a word, reaches in to her purse, pulls out a five-dollar bill, and hands it to the lawyer.

Now, it's the blonde's turn. She asks the lawyer, "What goes up a hill with three legs, and comes down with four?" The lawyer

looks at her with a puzzled look. He takes out his laptop computer and searches all his references. He taps into the Airphone with his modem and searches the Net and even the Library of Congress. Frustrated, he sends E-mails to all his co-workers and friends he knows. All to no avail.

After over an hour, of searching for the answer he finally gives up. He wakes the blonde and hands her \$50. The blonde politely takes the \$50 and turns away to get back to sleep.

The lawyer, who is more than a little frustrated, wakes the blonde and asks, "Well, so what IS the answer?" Again without a word, the blonde reaches into her purse, hands the lawyer \$5, and goes back to sleep.

Must not be his day

A policeman pulled a car over and told the driver he had won \$5,000 dollars in the seatbelt competition. "What are you going to do with the money?" asked the policeman. "Well, I guess I'm going to get a drivers license", he answered. "Oh, don't listen to him," said a woman in the passenger seat, "He's a smart aleck when he's drunk." Then the guy in the backseat said, "I knew we wouldn't get far in a stolen car." At that moment there was a knock from the trunk and a voice said, "Are we over the border yet?"

But I paid...

A man in a bar has a couple of beers, and the bartender tells him he owes \$4. "But I paid, don't you remember?" says the customer. "Okay," says the bartender, "If you said you paid, you did."

The man then goes outside and tells the first person he sees that the bartender can't keep track of whether his customers have paid. The second man then rushes in, orders a beer and later pulls the same stunt. The barkeep replies, "If you say you paid, I'll take your word for it." Soon the customer goes into the street, sees an old friend, and tells him how to get free drinks.

The man hurries into the bar and begins to drink highballs when, suddenly, the bartender leans over and says, "You know, a funny thing happened in here tonight. Two men were drinking beer, neither paid and both claimed that they did. The next guy who tries that is going to get punched right in the nose."

"Don't bother me with your troubles," the final patron responds. "Just give me my change and I'll be on my way."

Coffee in Bed

A sweet little boy surprised his grandmother one morning and brought her a cup of coffee. He made it himself and was so proud. He anxiously waited to hear the verdict on the quality of the coffee.

The grandmother had never in her life had such a bad cup of coffee, and as she forced down the last sip she noticed three of those little green army guys in the bottom of the cup.

She asked, "Honey, why would three little green army guys be in the bottom of my cup?"

Her grandson replied, "You know grandma, it's like on TV... 'The best part of waking up is soldiers in your cup.' "

The first little pig

My friend likes to read his two young sons fairy tales at night. Having a deep-rooted sense of humor, he often ad-libs parts of the stories for fun.

One day his youngest son was sitting in his first grade class as the teacher was reading the story of the Three Little Pigs.

She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to acquire building materials for his home. She said "...And so the pig went up to the man with a wheelbarrow full of straw and said 'Pardon me sir, but might I have some of that straw to build my house with?'" Then the teacher asked the class "And what do you think that man said?" and my friend's son raised his hand and said "I know! I know! He said 'Holysmokes! A talking pig!'"

Microsoft loves Clinton

1. Open a new Microsoft Word

document,

2. Type the phrase: I'd like Bill Clinton to resign.

3. Highlight this whole phrase (as if you were going to check for spelling),

4. Select Tools, go to Language and then to the Thesaurus,

5. Look at the suggested phrase.

(For those of you who do not use Word e-mail us at times10@v-wave.com and we will send you the answer.)

Wrong Door

A drunken man staggers in to a Catholic Church and wanders over to the confessional box. He opens the door, sits down and says nothing. The bewildered priest waits for a few minutes, allowing the drunken man some time to collect his thoughts. Growing impatient, the priest coughs to attract his attention, but still the man says nothing. The priest then knocks on the wall three times in a final attempt to get the man to speak.

Finally, the drunk replies: "No use knockin' mate, there's no paper in this one either."

Forgot the Bait

Having arrived at the edge of the river, the fisherman soon realized he had forgotten to bring any bait. Just then he happened to see a little snake passing by who had caught a worm. The fisherman snatched up the snake and robbed him of his worm. Feeling sorry for the little snake with no lunch, he snatched him up again and poured

a little beer down his throat and went about his fishing. An hour or so later the fisherman felt a tug at his pant leg. Looking down, he saw the same snake with three more worms.

Extreme Lifestyles

Three old timers were relating their most exciting experiences. The first, a retired sheriff, described the terrifying excitement of a shoot-out with Bonnie and Clyde back in his younger days. The other gents nodded and agreed that that, indeed, would have been exciting. The second, a retired fireman, related the tale of a huge fire at the university several years back. There were flames, fire trucks from several area fire departments, but the most exciting part were the naked coeds jumping from their dorm windows into his arms. The others gents agreed that had to be a very exciting time.

The third guy started, "I was an undertaker. One night I got a call to pick up a body that was under a sheet in a hotel room. When I got there, the guy had a huge erection. I knew there was no way I could get him through the lobby like that. So I found an old broom and whacked that erection just as hard as I could to make it go down." He paused. The retired fireman asked, "So, how was that exciting?" The undertaker answered, "Well, you see, I was in the wrong room."

Becoming Ourselves

**Butch, Femme and
In-Between**



By Shawn Mooney

My eighty-year-old Grandma just got back from a cruise down the Panama Canal. While on board the ship, she had her hair done and she couldn't tell, at first, whether the high-voiced, flamboyant, fine-handed hairdresser was male or female. Grandma eventually deduced that it was a man. She didn't care in any judgmental way, probably because she accepts me—her not-too-terribly-masculine gay grandson. Instead, she was rather fascinated by the stylist—who did such a *fabulous* job on her hair.

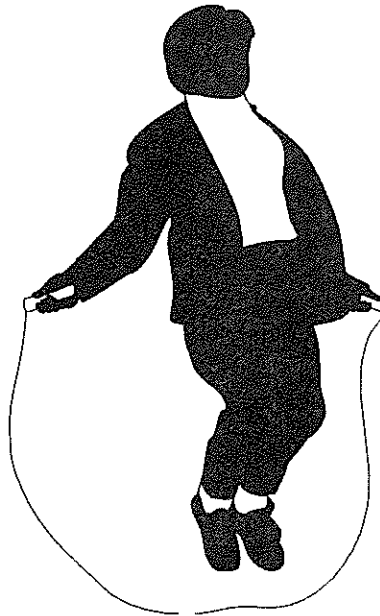
There are oodles of queer stereotypes, but those involving gender are the most controversial. Many of us expend a lot of energy convincing straight folk that the men of our tribe are not all femmes, the women not all diesel dykes. Of course that is true, but what about those in our community who *are* wired that way? This has long been my concern about the haste to distance ourselves from queer clichés: our insistence too

often translates into intolerance for gender nonconformity in our own community. In over-emphasizing a valid point—that stereotyping of any kind is harmful—sometimes we throw the baby out with the bathwater.

I remember a line from the coming-out speech I made to my college friends in 1986: "This is not about me wanting to wear dresses; yes, I am gay but I am not *that* way." Fourteen years later, I am still not into cross-dressing but I have come a long way towards accepting the blend of masculine and feminine energies that make up my personality.

We swallow the rules of society early on, including those about what is appropriate to our gender. Coming out is a soulful—at times painful—process precisely because we have to bring a lot of that early stuff back up, chew on the so-called rules, and decide anew what is appropriate. Complicating this process of taking responsibility for our own lives is a tricky psychic mechanism called "projection" — whereby whatever I refuse to accept about myself I see and condemn everywhere around me. Homophobes project onto us queers all the time—at bottom, that's what homophobia or any other kind of prejudice is—but we also do it a lot onto each other.

In my early days out of the closet, I accepted myself because I could securely say I was *not* a drag queen; I vehemently judged those gay men I encountered who were dolled up in dresses. What a marvelous process it was to get to know drag queens, to indulge my fascination with this crucial aspect of gay culture, and to begin to enjoy my own



authentic effeminacy!

And all these years later, I realize how ingrained that early socialization is: I still occasionally feel a momentary but deep-seated disgust when I encounter a mannish lesbian or a mincing girly-boy. The difference is that today I realize this reaction is my problem. What's more, I know that I cheat myself out of both self-awareness and potential connections with people when I unquestioningly indulge my projections about gender. The so-called stereotypical

gay men and lesbians have a lot to teach me about self-acceptance.

Indwelling in all of us is the full range of masculine and feminine characteristics. This is such an elemental truth that I would go so far as to say that ascribing certain qualities to one gender or the other is silly. When we refuse to accept qualities within—or in other people—that are traditionally ascribed to the opposite gender, we miss out, big-time. The journey really begins when we explore our prejudices and turn-offs—not as excuses to condemn folks out there in the world—but as clues to that which remains to be embraced within.

(Shawn Mooney is a psychotherapist in private practice in Edmonton. You can reach Shawn at 988-2741, mooneys@telusplanet.net, or on the Web at www.telusplanet.net/public/mooneys.)

New Group Forming

HIV Gay and Bi-Sexuals support group to be held on a regular basis. Please phone Andy at 451-1235 or e-mail at: andy@compusmart.ab.ca

New Name – Same Great People!

Harold Smith Travel at Eaton Centre has changed its name to Algonquin Travel. The name is the **ONLY** thing that's changed. Four years ago, the office was purchased by Corinne and Neil Chamney in a franchise agreement with Algonquin Travel of Canada. We had the right to use the Harold Smith name with the plan of changing to Algonquin sometime in the future. Well, the future happened for us on March 1, 2000. Our consultants are the same caring, involved, knowledgeable people as before. In addition to Corinne and Neil, we have Glen, Colette, Christina, Donna, Mary and Jacy. We realize Algonquin is difficult to pronounce (and to spell!) so please feel free to use our first names. We have specific knowledge for gay and lesbian travel, but also sell the complete spectrum of travel products – everything from a simple flight to Vancouver to African safaries to managing your company's corporate travel. Please call us at 429-2233 to arrange your travel plans. We truly thank you for your support in the past and look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Starting in the next issue of Times .10

Welcome to the Bi Line, a completely one-sided view of movies on video. (And that statement should set the 'stage' for some interesting feedback!)

I'm Narda, manager of Alternative Video Spot. I accept the label bi from those of you who feel a need to label. My work is in a video store and I watch a lot of videos. I have not taken film-studies classes, nor do I intend to. I simply want to ENJOY watching, and my reviews may be a considered (though not necessarily informed) thought on the cinematography, or they may as shallow as "It was as boring as sh*t".

I won't be focusing on the lesbigay content of a title, per se—I may refer to a particular actor, a particular genre, or maybe nothing in particular at all. My intention is just to share my awareness of the many titles you may or may not be familiar with. And of course, you're welcome to comment...to the editor! Bi for now...Narda.

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EBM Top Ten?

By Nik Rofeelya

- 1.ASSEMBLAGE 23~ Contempt~ (Gashed!) ~Purgatory, or Anthem. Dance floor-crushing EBM. One of the most important releases of 1999
- 2.COVENANT~ United StatesOfMind~(Metropolis) ~Dead Stars. This one is a given. Numan-esque synth-pop crossed with dark-elektro = dance floor madness.
- 3.VNVNATION~Empires~(Dependent) ~Legion. A classic EBM tune.
- 4.FLESH FIELD~ Viral

Extinction~ (Inception) ~Heretic. What can I say, I have a fetish for female vox. 5 . A P O P T Y G M A BERZERK~ Welcome To Earth~ (Metropolis) ~Eclipse. Brilliant song. Brilliant album. A must have for any electronic music fan. 6.BIOPSY~ Third Stroke~ (DSBP)~Body Wire. These Brazilian terrorists just plain ol' kick royal ass!

7.VOICE INDUSTRIE~ Transmission~ (Interdimensional Industries) ~Fact. My personal fave from Edmonton's undesputed kings of EBM. And this is just a teaser album...Look for the live CD release at New City Suburbs May 21.

8.NUMB~ Language Of Silence (Metropolis)

~~Deviation. The only remaining Canadian industrial band that has yet to disappoint. 9.MS GENTUR~ First Chapter~(Hands)~~Oblivion. Plain old Rhythmic Noise fun from Germany. An emotionally charged album created for your psyche, as well as a club floor. 10.KEVORKIAN DEATH CYCLE~ A+O=(m)~ (Metropolis)~~Relax. Frankie say... 11.SYSTEM DER DINGE~ FearFormsFunction~(DSBP) ~Mindfire. Another wondefull offering from DSBP. Fans of Biopsy are sure to appreciate this.

12.ABSCESS~ Punishment & Crippled Reality~ (Gashed!) ~Pendulum. Club-floor hit. This band has been lurking in my top 10 for some time now...with no signs of letting up.

13.consume~ Demo~ (Independent) ~Ezra Pound (Remixed By Shaen H. & Shane E.). Edmonton Powernoise guru J.Wood offers up one of my personal faves. The torture-tek applications from Mr.H & Mr.E. provide an instant dance floor hit.

Sundays at NEW CITY SUBURBS ~ Sunday Service (The Inquisition) w/ rev. nik rofeelya, 10161 112 St. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Info (780) 413-4578

Wednesdays at GROUND ZERO (Formerly REBAR) ~Purgatory w/ nik rofeelya, 10551 82 Ave Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, www.fleeinterior.com

POOLXL – Edmonton's Dance Pool TOP 30

TC	LC	WO	TITLE	ARTIST	LABEL
1	1	6	Fly Away	Eyes Cream	Hi-Bias/Attic
2	2	8	Move Your Body	Eiffel 65	Popular
3	4	10	I See You Baby	Groove Armada	BMG
4	12	4	The Bad Touch	The Bloodhound Gang	Universal
5	11	7	Cartoon Heroes	Aqua	Universal
6	3	14	Horny Horns	Perfect Phase	Popular
7	5	16	Sun Is Shining	Bob Marley	Attic
8	20	7	It Feels So Good	Sonique	Universal
9	16	4	Funk U	Brooklyn Bounce	CTools/Attic
10	10	7	It's A Disco Night	Forcefield	B'T Buzz
11	15	4	American Pie	Madonna	Warner
12	6	17	All I Really Want	Kim Lucas	BMG
13	17	4	Everytime It Rains	Ace Of Base	Arista/BMG
14	21	4	Kiss	Venga Boys	Universal
15	9	10	The Launch	DJ Jean	Tycoon
16	7	15	SM Trax Is Calling	SM Trax	Attic/Oasis
17	14	11	Don't Call Me Baby	Madison Avenue	Sony
18	8	7	In And Out Of My Life	One Phat Deeva	Numuzik
19	23	4	Rainbow Country	Bob Marley vs Funkstar Deluxe	CTool /Attic
20	13	8	Fatbeat	Speedo	Popular
21	37	2	King Of My Castle	Wamdue Project	Tycoon/Sony
22	22	5	Pure Shores	All Saints	Warner
23	19	12	Honey Ride This	Club Robbers	SPG
24	24	10	It's On You	Real McCoy	BMG
25	25	8	Down Down Down	Gambafreaks	Popular
26	26	6	Boogie Monster	Armand Van Helden	SPG
27	31	4	Stop The Rock	Apollo Four Forty	Sony
28	34	3	Like This	Technotronic	JC Music
29	38	6	I Learn From The Best	Whitney Houston	BMG
30	35	3	Primal Scream	Swaztika Eyes	Sony

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HIVEdmonton The Black And White Affair

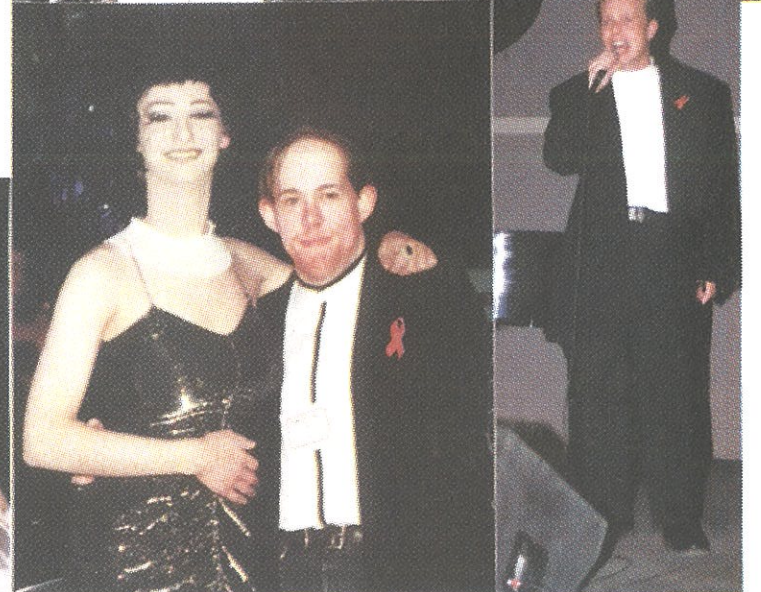
On Saturday evening, March 18, HIV Edmonton hosted its 10th anniversary Black and White Affair at the Shaw Conference Centre. From all reports and the many, many positive comments, we conclude that it was a resounding success.

Certainly we have to thank the hundreds of businesses and individual that give tirelessly to our Silent Auction. HIV Edmonton relies on the proceeds from this event to assist in providing support and programming for persons infected and affected by HIV. The proceeds from the silent auction play a major role in that endeavour.

HIV Edmonton has the distinction of having one of the finest volunteer corps in Edmonton. An event, such as this, requires endless hours of planning and preparation and all of this is done selflessly by our volunteers. We thank you for your time, your commitment and your generosity of spirit. You are the very life's blood of our organization.

And finally, the Black and White Committee and HIV Edmonton want to acknowledge the role played by you, the community who are the patrons of our event. Without your continued support and generosity, the Black and White Affair and the work that it sponsors would not be possible.

Thank you Edmonton and we look forward to seeing you next year.



Womonspace Dance Great Fun



Books available at The Tom Edge Resource Centre HIV Edmonton

"The HIV - Negative Gay Man",
Developing Strategies for Survival and
Emotional Well-Being.
Edited by Steven Ball, MA, MSW,
ACSW; The Harrington Park Press
(1998)

Reviewed by Robert Smith
Steven Ball has assembled in this book,
a selection of articles by a number of
Programmers, Academics and Health
Promoters primarily from New York
City on "Developing Strategies for
Survival and Emotional Well-Being".

The forward, by author and private
therapist Michael Shernoff, MSW,
describes the essence of community
development in the post HIV crisis of
the new millenium. Of prime concern
is the development of networks and
strategies to help HIV - negative men
cope with their survival status. He cites
authors like Walt Odets of "In the
Shadow Of the Epidemic" who urges
the replacement of AIDS Service
Organizations by re-threading our
communities with the support systems
needed to bring gay men into some form
of psycho-emotional focus as sexual
beings with positive attitudes around
healthy sexuality.

The book is broken down into three
sections, Personal Perspectives in which
the essays outline the issues surrounding
"coming out" in the AIDS era, the
hardships and challenges of spreading
gay wings in a war zone; and an AIDS
Educator's seroconversion, a tale of
knowing better but forgetting the lesson.
The second section presents a few
clinical models addressing approaches
to education and consultation that

provide support for HIV - negative men
in time-limited group involvement.
Interestingly, an article on utilizing
seronegative men to facilitate groups on
staying negative presents a variety of
challenges on the ultimate transfer of
identity with the group participants and
the internalizing of individual feelings
around the facilitators' own negative
status.

In the final section, entitled "Concepts
and the Future", the articles deal with
the de-rationalization of old messaging
strategies in lieu of a dialogue that
addresses social-behaviour and
naturalizes the concept and principles of
queer theory and the normalization of
sexual identity.

This is a good read for anyone who
wishes to be involved in community
building with gay/bisexual men in the
post AIDS crisis. It is also an important
read to anyone who has questions around
their place as HIV-negative men in a
socially complex, if not underdeveloped
system of community values and future
aspirations.

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long term relationships

Box 1170: I'm 20, 6', 150lb, short dark hair with blond streaks, brown eyes, goatee, in good shape. Looking for someone who isn't really into the bar scene, is sweet, caring, funny. I smoke and drink.

Box 1198: I'm Robb, 5'6", brown hair, blue eyes, live in B.C. on Vancouver Island. I'm looking to make some new friends if you are out this way.

Box 1269: I saw a great billboard the other day for Bailey's. It had a cute guy, and it said he wasn't unemployed, wasn't married and wasn't in therapy. That's what I'm looking for. I'm 33 and am constantly told that I look younger, which is nice. I'm changing my career right now so I'm in school and I've got a part time job. I'm 5'11", 155lb, lean. Maybe we could share a workout. I've got a great family and friends and my lifestyle is great, I would just like to compliment it. I'm not into jumping into bed. Looking for someone 20-40. I love curly hair, hairy chest, wonderful smile and I like uncut guys. I like guys to be straight looking and acting and there's got to be some chemistry. Let's do coffee.

Box 1294: I'm 19, 6'1", 160lb, black hair, brown eyes. Consider myself to be a very soundly open-minded, happy and creative person. I'm looking for other guys with the same interests. I like biking, camping, dancing, the outdoors.

Box 1330: I'm looking for one man, and one man only, who is over 50 years old for a longterm, casual relationship. I say longterm, because I believe that the longer you know someone the better the intimacy, and casual, because I like to get together once or twice a week for romantic, intimate get-togethers. I enjoy touching, cuddling, kissing, candle light, having baths and showers together, playing with whipped cream, oil rubs. I enjoy pleasing my partner, I'm very oral and receiving anal sex. I love having a man inside of me. I'm 39, 5'10", 170lb, strawberry blond hair and a touch of grey on the sides. I'm in excellent shape, financially secure, and not hard up.

Box 1156: I'm David. Hot and sexy bottom boy, 27, 5'11", 180lb, short dark hair, dark eyes. Seeking well-endowed tops. Age doesn't matter, as long as you have the right sized equipment that I need.

casual encounters

Box 1163: I would love to find someone to get together with once in a while. Let's lie back and watch hot sexy videos or read some hot male magazines. I like to have my cock stroked, played with, masturbated and sucked on. I'd love to feel your hands in between my buns, and I'd love to do the same to you. I've got a slim, smooth, hot body. You like to touch and be touched, feel and be felt.

Box 1200: I'm celebrating my mid-30's, married. I'm looking for a boy who'd like to play with me and my wife. Your body must be smooth, I don't care about the size of your cock because I'll suck it and make it bigger than it's ever been. I can't wait. My wife wants to see me fuck you, while you fuck her. I want to fuck your ass, suck your bag and eat your ass. It's been a long time and I can't wait.

Box 1219: I'm a male, mid-30's, married. I'm looking for young men who are smooth-bodied. Help me to fulfill a fantasy with my wife. She'd love to see me make love to another guy. I'd like to make love to her while you make love to me. I love sucking cock. I want you to suck mine. You won't be disappointed.

Box 1235: I'm a young, really horny bi-guy, 20. I love to fuck and to get fucked. I love sucking cock. I like to have safe threesomes and I prefer older men.

Box 1239: I'm a pretty attractive guy in the Jasper area. I'm 5'10", 160lb, short brown hair, blue eyes, good solid build. I'm looking for a muscular, well-fit, hairy chested guy who looks good in tight-fitting jeans. I'd like to get

together for a casual encounter that's lots of fun. You are 25-35, 5'11" - 6'.

Box 1241: My name is David. I'm very good-looking, 5'11", 180lb, lean, muscular build, short dark hair, dark eyes and a tanned complexion. I'm employed, very busy. I'm seeking friendship and companionship on the intimate side, preferably ongoing. I'm a bottom with 7 1/2". You are a very well-endowed top.

Box 1245: I'm 40, looking for a group of men who are 30-40, for group sex. Help me make this fantasy a reality.

Box 1256: I'm 27, 5'7", 130lb, clean-shaven, smooth body, slim build, very athletic, dark hair, brown eyes. I'm looking for other guys, 20-30, for some fun, coffee and more.

Box 1281: I'm Carl, looking for someone for a casual friendship. Let's connect and see what happens. I'm not looking for crudeness. I believe in honesty and sensitivity. I'm 5'7", longish brown hair, brown goatee and mustache, blue eyes and glasses, 175lb.

Box 1296: I'm a young East Asian guy, in my early 20's, 6'2", 180lb. I'll be in town until the end of February. Let's get together, get naked and have some fun with our hands and mouths. You must be young, attractive, fit, straight acting, discreet and clean.

Box 1317: I'm good-looking, 30, 6', dark hair and eyes, 185lb, very muscular, well-built, nice hard body and a nice big dick. I work out three times a week and I really like going to the gym to work out with other hot guys. I'm into biking, camping, and skiing. I'm pretty new at this, but I'm willing to try almost anything with the right guy. I'm looking for other hot guys, under 30.

Box 1337: I'm clean, well-built, very discreet, honest, sincere, open-minded and I love to meet new people. I enjoy socializing and having a good time. I've got a good sense of humour and I'm an outdoors man. You are 18-35.

transgender

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Box 1175: I'm 22, living in White Court. I'm looking for discreet, casual encounters, whether you're just passing through or live in town.

bears, big men & their admirers

Box 1166: My name is Darren. I'm open to a possible longterm relationship, casual encounters and the occasional phone sex. I stand 5'11", 280lb, 29 and holding, short brown hair, green eyes, mustache and goatee, moderately hairy body, 6-7 1/2" cut. I'm generally a top but I hope to enjoy being a bottom. I enjoy music, art, theatre, and going to the club dancing. I'm a social drinker, non-smoker.

Box 1176: This young looking 22 year old, from White Court, is looking for some quiet and discreet encounters. Let's hook

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up and get to know each other better. Box 1329: Two men, 30's, masculine, very hairy, clean and discreet, disease free are looking for the same. One is 6', 195lb, 7" cut. The other is 5'9, 175lb, 7" cut. We are physically fit and in good shape. We are looking for well-endowed men, cut or uncut, 160lb+ who are in good shape, disease free and the way and I love to be made to feel bad for doing that. I enjoy discipline, different forms of humiliation. I've got several very different very detailed fantasies that involve severe domination and humiliation and I'm pretty much game for any of them at any time.

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